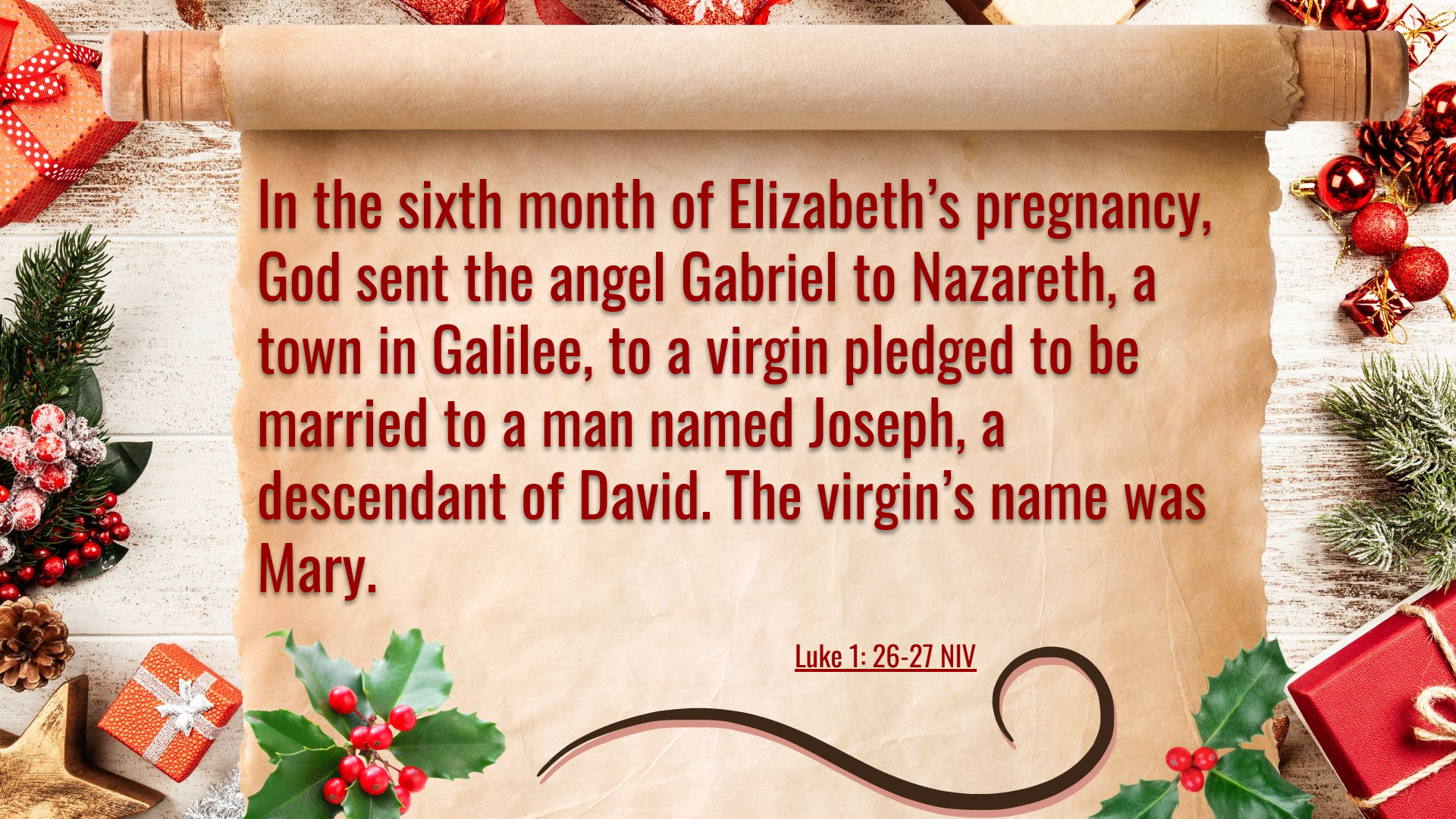




God's
Christmas List


Main Point

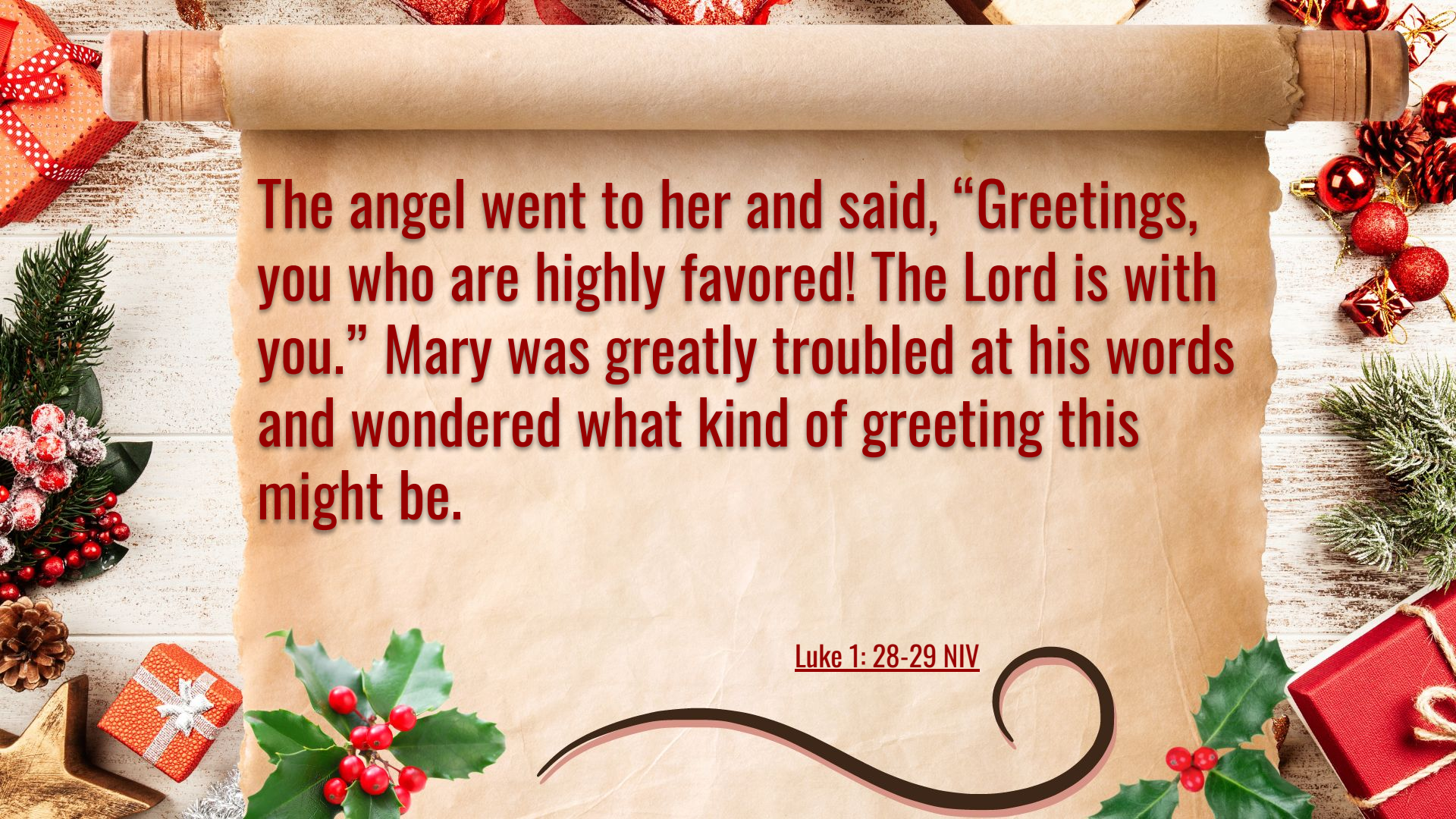
Faith that is exercised is faith that is realized

A scroll of parchment is unrolled across the top of the image. The parchment is light brown and has a slightly textured appearance. The text is written in a bold, dark red font. The background is a light-colored wooden surface. There are several Christmas decorations scattered around the scroll, including pine branches, red berries, pinecones, and wrapped gifts. One gift is wrapped in orange paper with a white star, and another is wrapped in red paper with a white star. There are also several red and gold ornaments and a small gold star.

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

Luke 1: 26-27 NIV

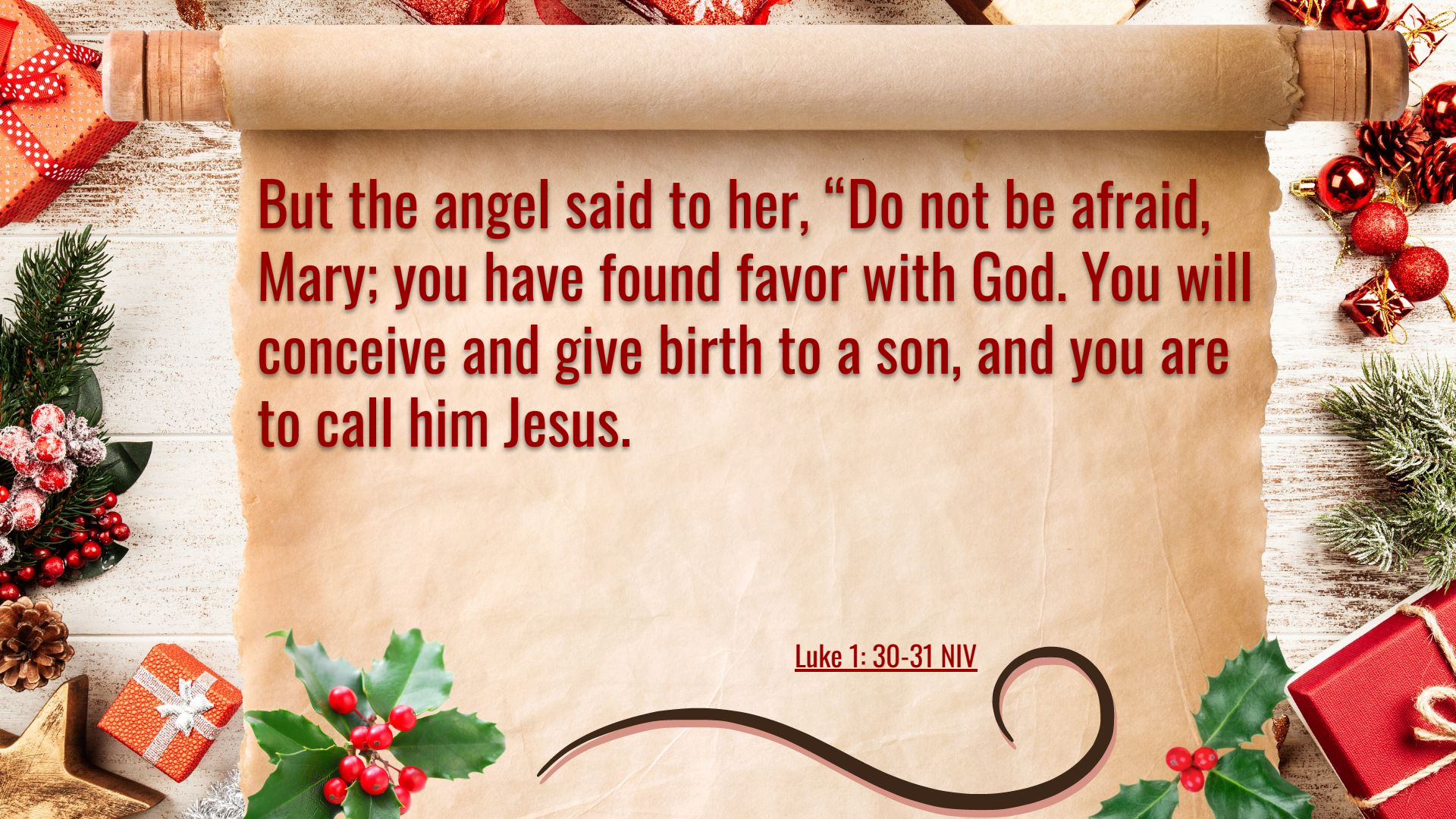
A decorative black scroll flourish with a pinkish-red inner border, starting from the bottom center and curving upwards and to the right.

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The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.” Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

Luke 1: 28-29 NIV


A decorative black scroll flourish with a pinkish-red outline, starting from the bottom left and curving towards the bottom right.



But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

Luke 1: 30-31 NIV

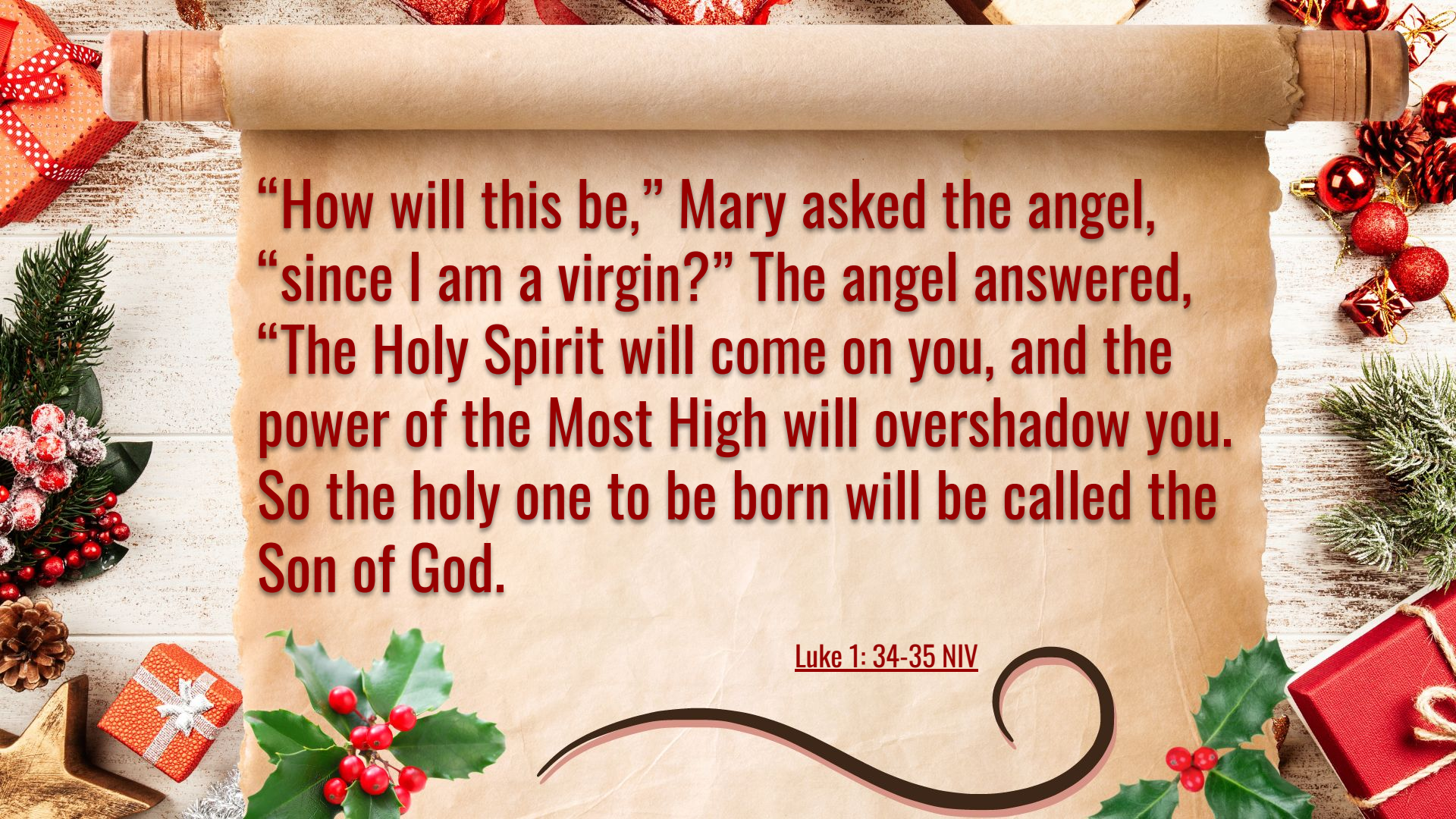


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He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.

Luke 1: 32-33 NIV

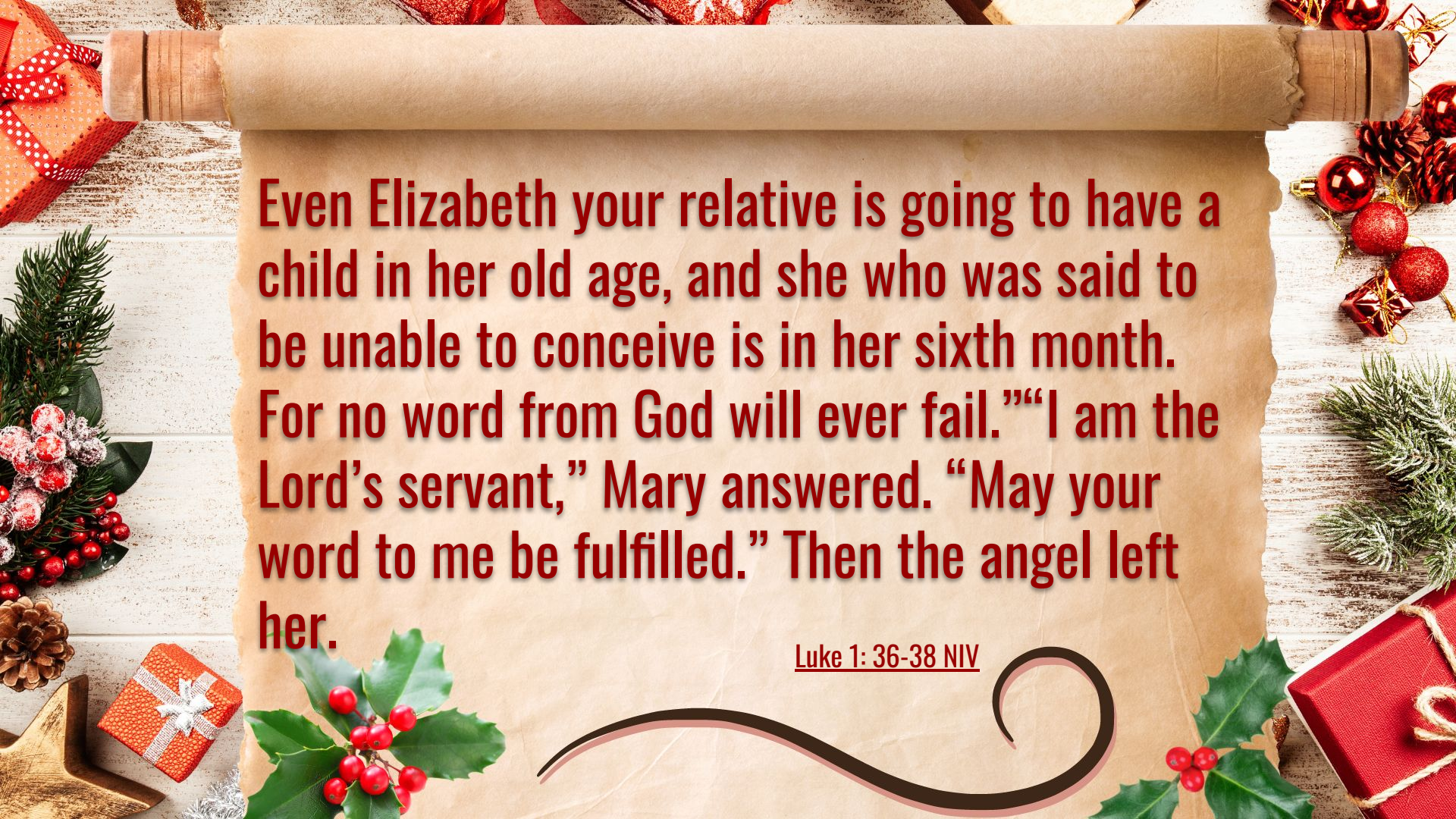
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A scroll of parchment is unrolled across the top of the image. The parchment is light brown and has a slightly textured appearance. The text is written in a bold, dark red font. The scroll is surrounded by various Christmas decorations, including pine branches, red berries, holly leaves, and small wrapped gifts. The background is a light-colored wooden surface.

**“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel,
“since I am a virgin?” The angel answered,
“The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the
power of the Most High will overshadow you.
So the holy one to be born will be called the
Son of God.**


Luke 1: 34-35 NIV

A decorative black scroll with a pinkish-red outline, starting from the bottom left and curving upwards and to the right, ending in a small loop.

A scroll of parchment is unrolled across the center of the image. The parchment has a light beige, aged appearance with some creases and a slightly irregular edge. The text is written in a bold, dark red, serif font. The scroll is surrounded by various Christmas decorations: a red gift box with a white polka-dot ribbon is in the top left; a pine branch with red berries and a pinecone is in the bottom left; a red gift box with a white star is in the bottom left; a red gift box with a white star is in the bottom right; and a pine branch with red berries is in the bottom right. The background is a light-colored, textured surface, possibly wood or stone.

Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.”“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

Luke 1: 36-38 NIV

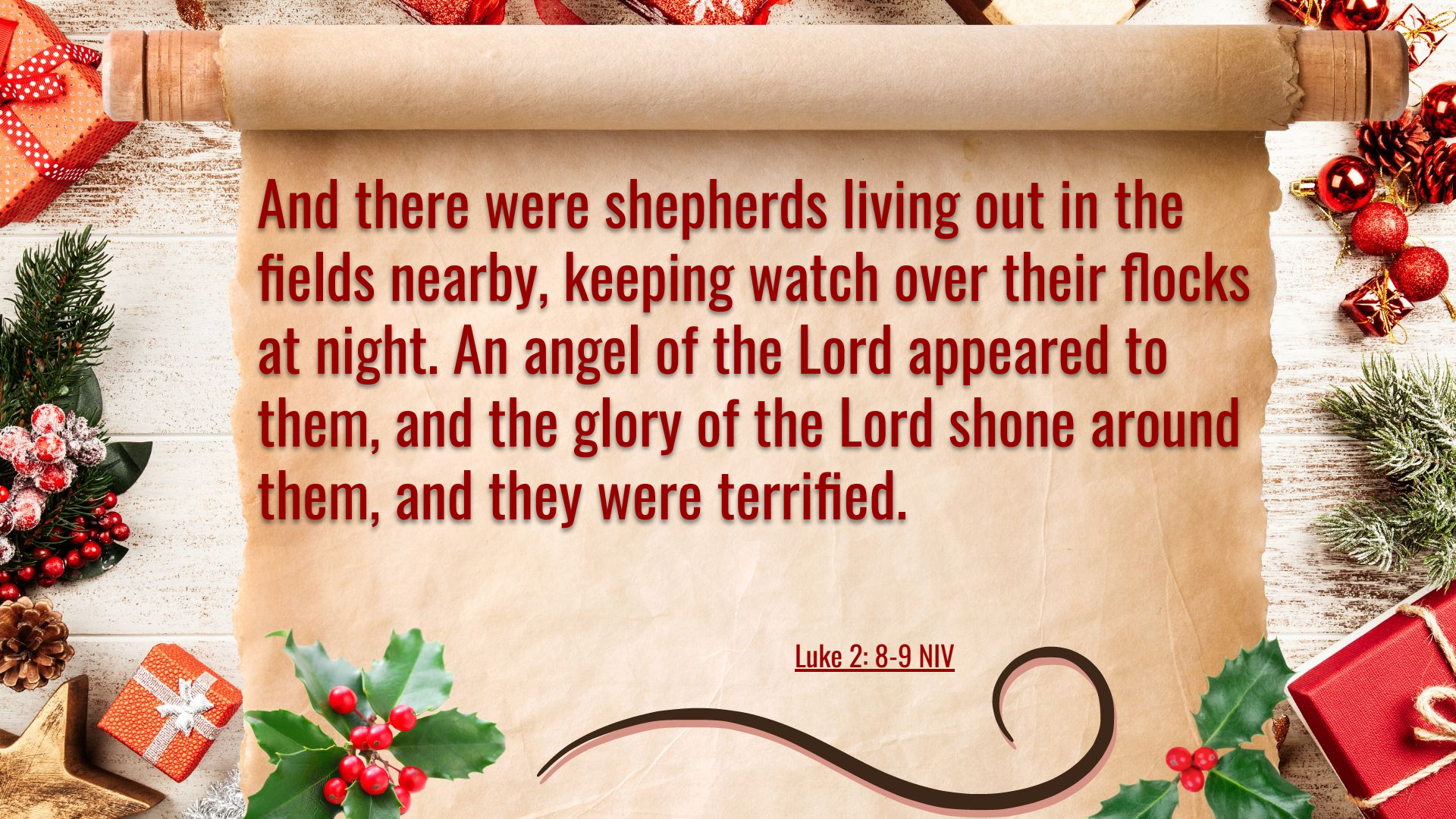
A decorative black scroll flourish with a pinkish-red outline, starting from the bottom center and curving upwards and to the right.

Mary

- ★ Told “The Lord is with you.”
- ★ The baby is the Son of God
- ★ Gives God her full trust


Significance of Mary

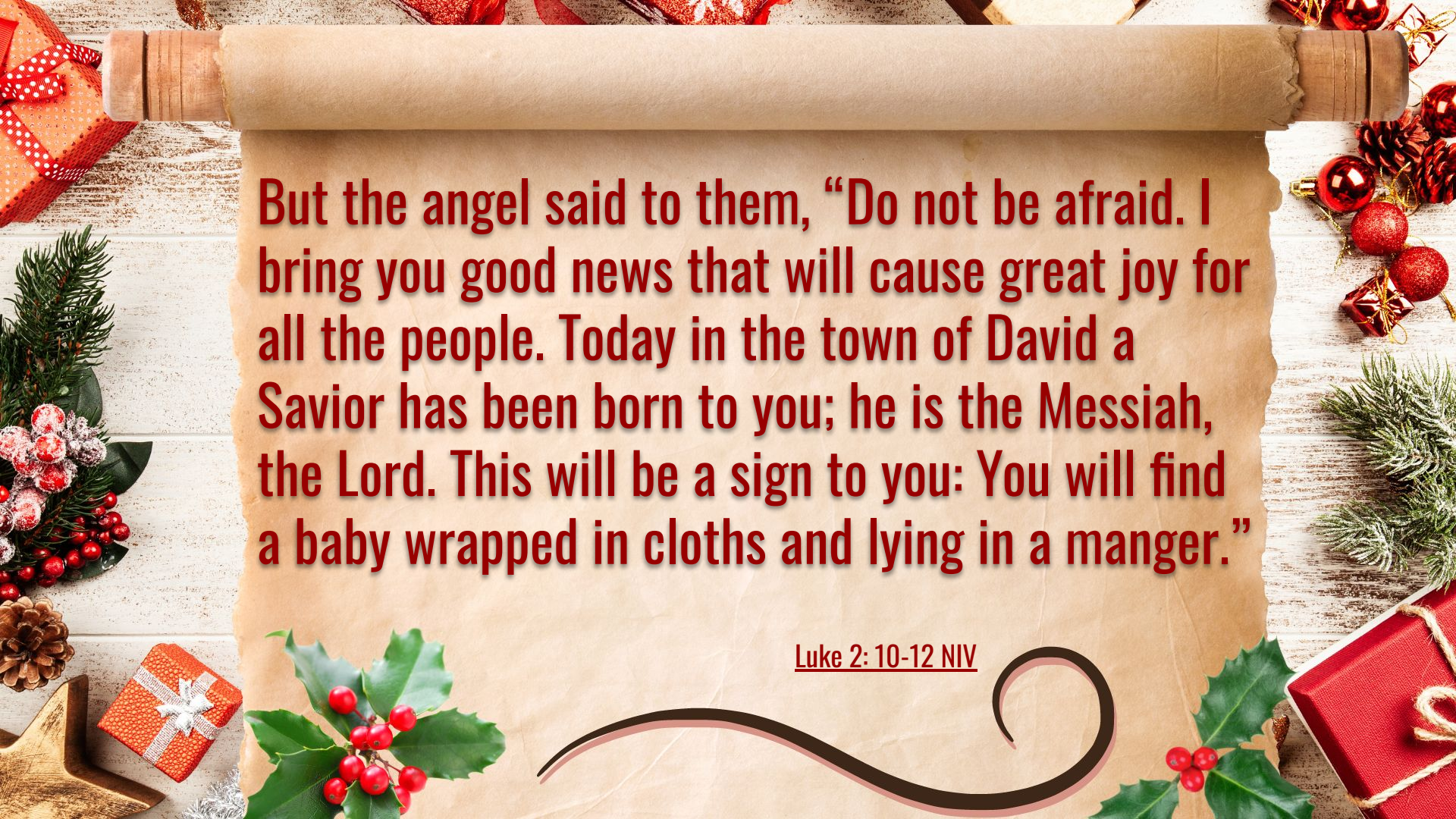
- ★ More than just Jesus' mother
- ★ Trusted God completely
- ★ Put her faith in God alone

A scroll of parchment is unrolled across the top of the image. The parchment is light brown and has a slightly textured appearance. The text is written in a bold, dark red font. The background is a light-colored wooden surface. There are various Christmas decorations scattered around the scroll, including pine branches, red berries, pinecones, and small wrapped gifts. One gift is wrapped in orange paper with a white star, and another is wrapped in red paper with a white star. There are also several red and gold ornaments and a small gold star.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

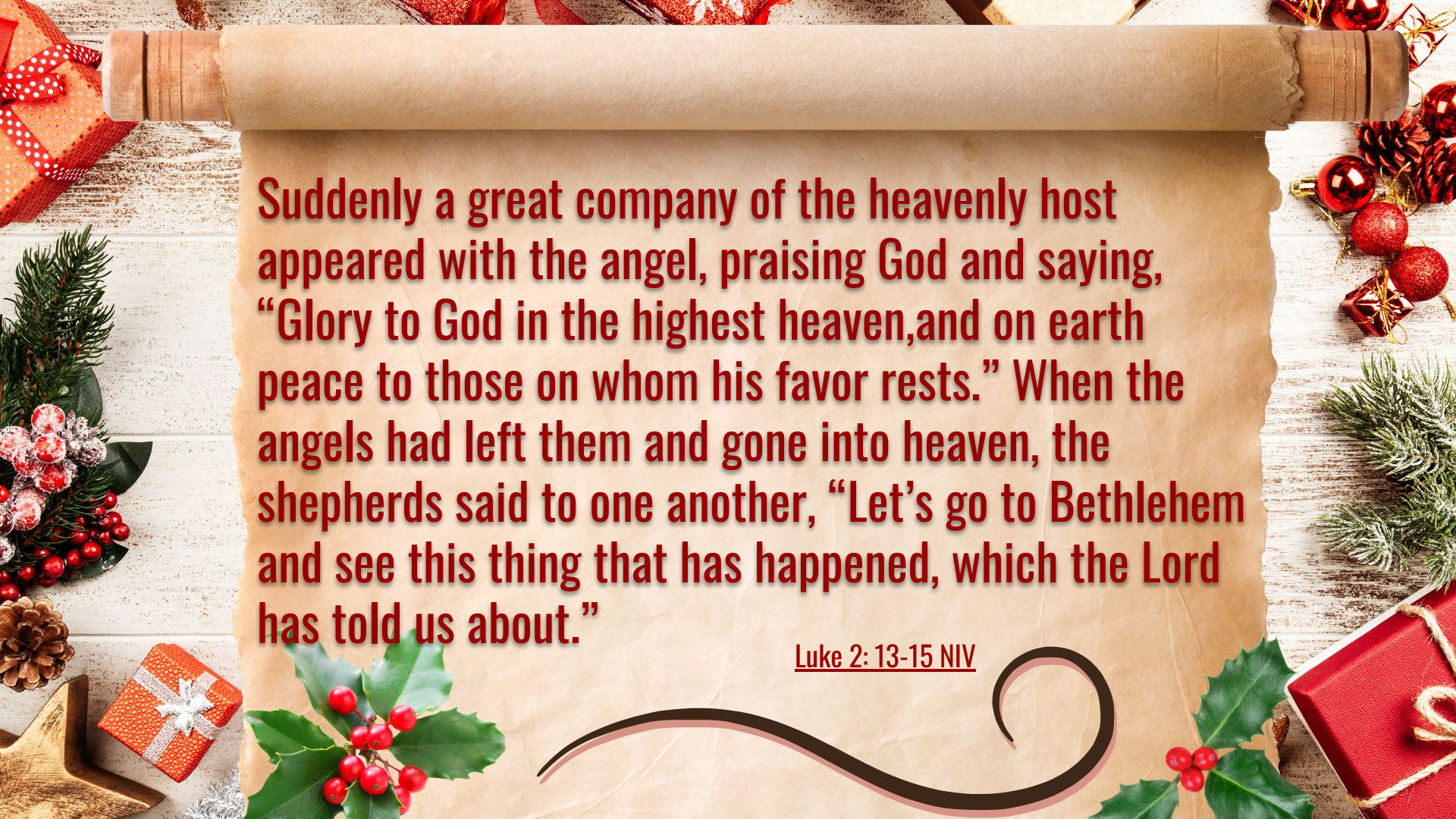
Luke 2: 8-9 NIV

A decorative black scroll with a pinkish-red outline, starting from the bottom left and curving towards the bottom right.

A scroll of parchment is unrolled across the center of the image. The parchment has a light beige, textured appearance with slightly irregular, torn edges. The text is written in a bold, dark red, serif font. The scroll is surrounded by various Christmas decorations: a large orange gift box with a red polka-dot ribbon is in the top left; a small orange gift box with a white star is in the bottom left; a red gift box with a white star is in the bottom right; and several sprigs of holly with red berries and green leaves are scattered around the bottom and right sides. There are also pine branches, pinecones, and red and gold ornaments visible in the background.


But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

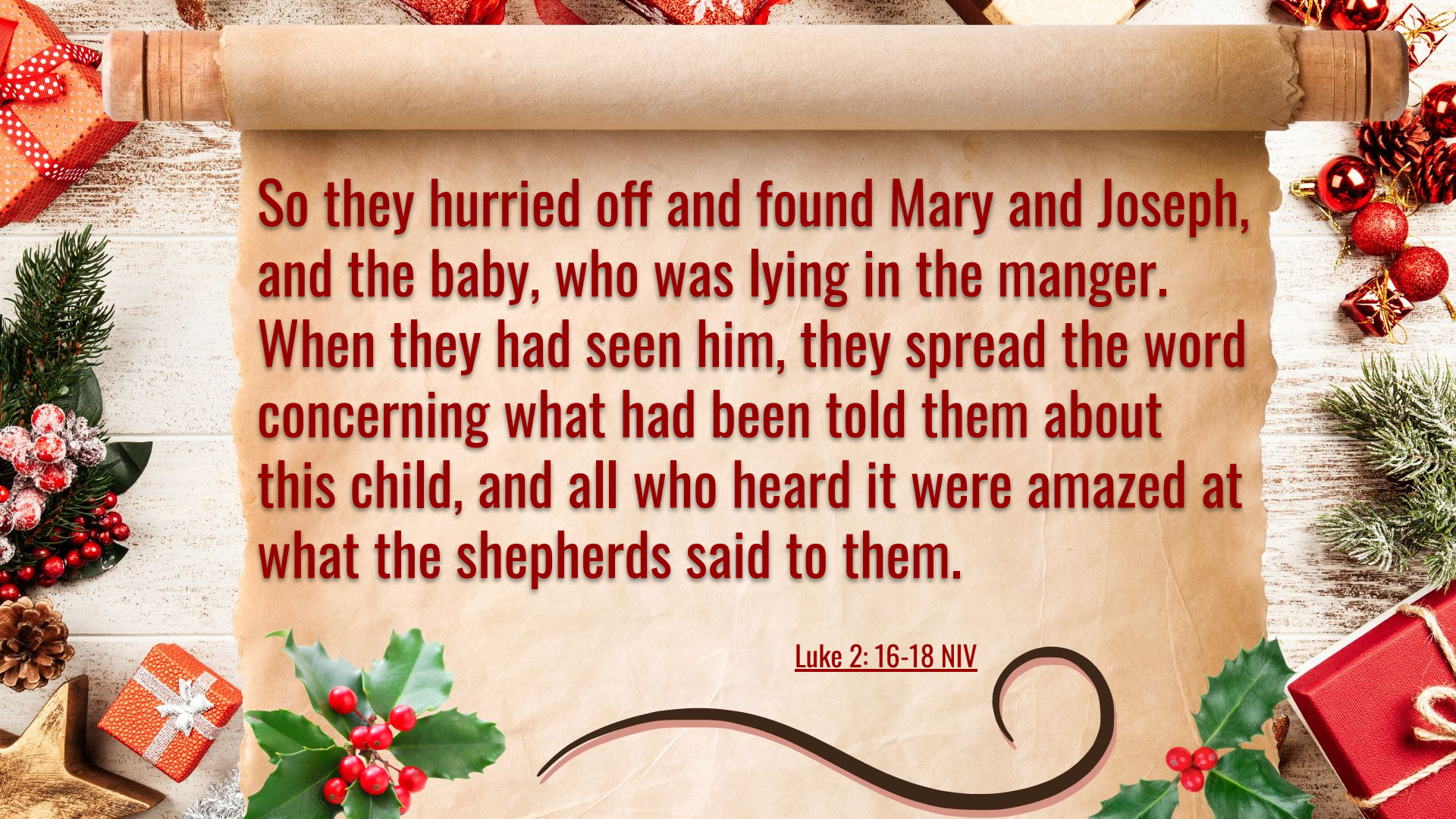
Luke 2: 10-12 NIV

A scroll of parchment is unrolled across the top of the image. The parchment is light brown and has a slightly textured appearance. It is surrounded by various Christmas decorations, including pine branches, red berries, holly leaves, and small wrapped gifts. The background is a light-colored wooden surface.

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”


Luke 2: 13-15 NIV

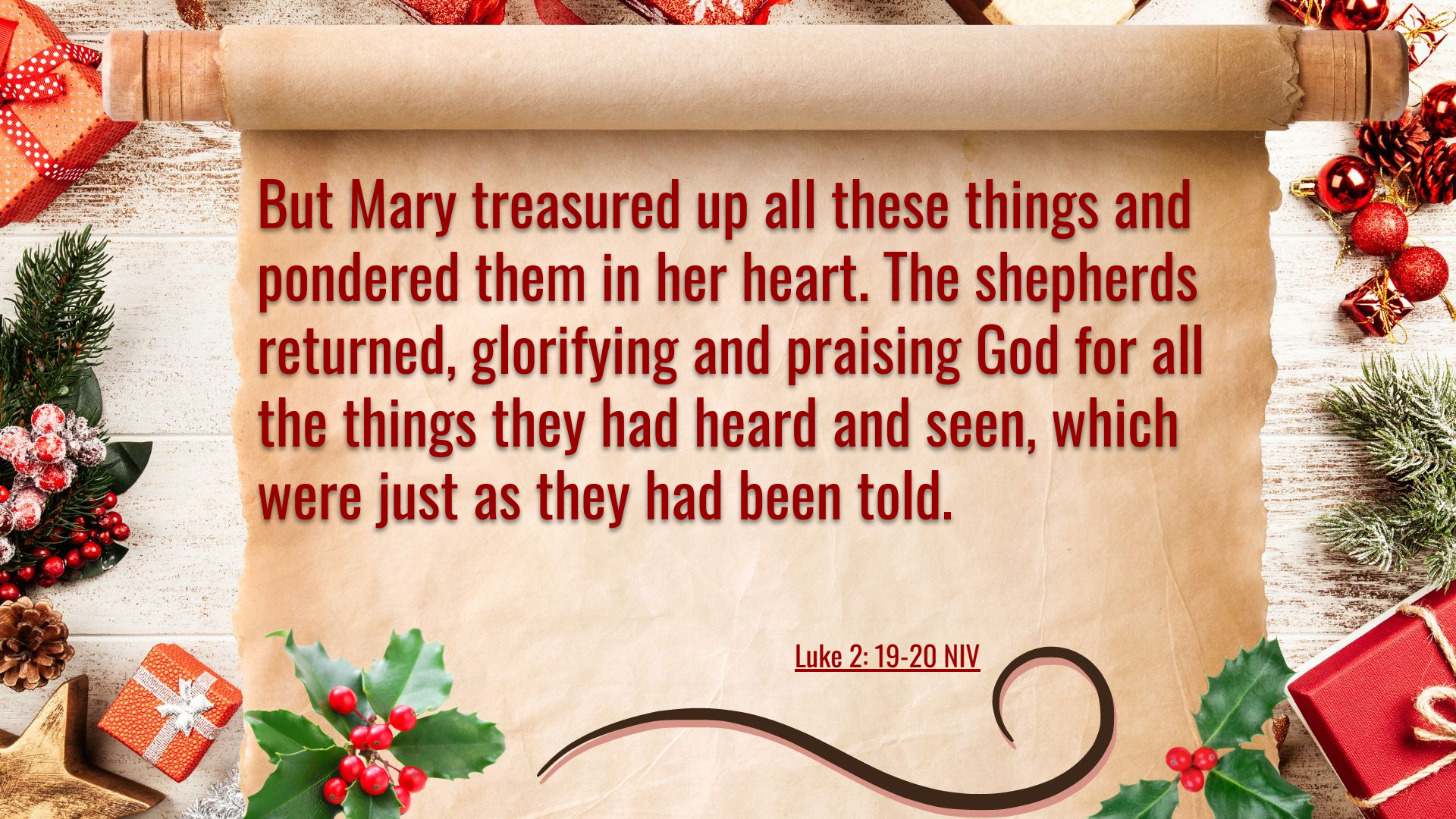
A decorative flourish consisting of a thick, black, wavy line that starts from the left, curves upwards and then downwards, ending in a small loop on the right side.

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**So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph,
and the baby, who was lying in the manger.
When they had seen him, they spread the word
concerning what had been told them about
this child, and all who heard it were amazed at
what the shepherds said to them.**


Luke 2: 16-18 NIV

A decorative black scroll flourish with a pinkish-red shadow, starting from the bottom center and curving upwards and to the right.

A scroll of parchment is unrolled across the center of the image. The parchment has a light beige, textured appearance with slightly irregular, torn edges. The scroll is held in place by wooden rollers at the top. The background is a light-colored wooden surface. Various Christmas decorations are scattered around the scroll, including pine branches, red holly leaves with berries, pinecones, and several wrapped gifts in red and orange paper with white bows. The text on the scroll is written in a bold, dark red, serif font.

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Luke 2: 19-20 NIV

A decorative flourish consisting of a thick, black, wavy line that starts from the left, curves downwards and then upwards, ending in a spiral on the right side.

The Shepherds

- ★ Lost status in society
- ★ Savior is born for THEM
- ★ Spread the word

The Significance of The Shepherds

- ★ Recognized the Messiah came for them
- ★ Exercised their faith
 - Shared God with others
 - Praised God

Faith Like Mary

- ★ Completely trust God
- ★ *“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not on your own understanding” (Prov 3:5)*
- ★ 2 potential difficulties

Faith Like Mary

- ★ We have to give all of our trust to God
- ★ We still need to act on what God would have us do

Faith Like The Shepherds

- ★ Remember Jesus came for US
- ★ Talk to others about what God has done
- ★ Give God praise for who He is

Faith Like The Shepherds

- ★ Remember Jesus came for US
- ★ Talk to others about what God has done
- ★ Give God praise for who He is

Faith Like The Shepherds

- ★ We can't over praise God
- ★ Be like the shepherds not in occupation but in adoration
- ★ Make our faith real by talking about it

Closing

- ★ Make your faith more than an ideal
- ★ Trust God like Mary
- ★ Praise God like the shepherds
- ★ Exercise your faith and make it real