

The image features a dark blue night sky filled with numerous small, white stars. At the top center, a bright, glowing starburst or sunburst effect radiates light across the sky. In the foreground, at the bottom of the frame, there is a large, tangled pile of dry, golden-brown straw or hay, with some stalks pointing upwards. The overall composition is centered and balanced, with the text overlaid on the starry background.

Gaining Christmas Clarity

The First Christmas

- Mary – Luke 1:26-38
- Joseph – Matthew 1:18-25
- Shepherds – Luke 2:8-20
- Wise Men – Matthew 2:1-6
- Simeon – Luke 2:25-35



The Common Thread

They all seemed to have some level of Old Testament understanding of the promised coming of the Christ.



Old Testament Prophecy

- Isaiah 7:14 – “Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son...”
- Isaiah 9:6 – “For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given...”
- Micah 5:2 – But you Bethlehem...”



A Closer Christmas Look...

- The Christ of Christmas came to SAVE & FORGIVE
 - Matt. 1:21 – “...He will save His people”
 - Lk. 2:11 – “for there is born...a Savior”
 - Lk. 2:30 – “my eyes have seen”



A Closer Christmas Look...

- The Christ of Christmas came to DELIVER and HEAL
 - Luke 4:18-21 – “The Spirit of the Lord”
 - Isaiah 53:5b – “By His stripes...”



A Closer Christmas Look...

- The Christ of Christmas came to RULE and REIGN
 - Wise Men – “where is He who...”
 - Gabriel – “...He will reign...”
 - Angel – “...Christ the Lord...”



A Closer Christmas Look...

- The Christ of Christmas came to LIVE and DIE and LIVE again!
 - Isaiah 53
 - Psalm 16:10 – “For you will not leave My soul in Sheol...”

