

Levi Pennington

People

1970

Christmas, 1970

Levi T. Pennington
George Fox University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi_pennington

Recommended Citation

Pennington, Levi T., "Christmas, 1970" (1970). *Levi Pennington*. 430.
https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi_pennington/430

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the People at Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Levi Pennington by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact arolfe@georgefox.edu.

Christmas, 1970



THE ANGEL GABRIEL SPEAKS

Was it a heavenly vision or a dream?
Did it occur or did it only seem?
Should I be sure before I speak a word
Or should I tell you what I saw and heard?
The sight was clear, and clearly came the sound —
And yet I pause, for this is holy ground.

The angel Gabriel sat all alone.
Around his head celestial brightness shone.
In deep perplexity he bowed his head,
Talked to himself, and this is what he said.



I do not understand it. I was sent
To that small orb they call the earth. I went,
As I had been directed, to a maid
Who, when she saw me first, was much afraid.
I told her she was chosen to give birth
To one more high than any man on earth.
“How can that be?” she said. “I am not married.”
I turned to go, but long enough I tarried
To say God would be father of the child.
She looked amazed, and then she softly smiled,
Then bowed her head and spoke this simple word,
“Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord.”

Nine months had passed when next I saw the
earth.
This time 'twas to announce the wondrous birth
Of one both son of God and son of man.
Not to a palace — that was not the plan —
But to a field where shepherds watched their sheep.
Some of them watched, while others were asleep.
When I appeared they all were much afraid
But were more calm and quiet when I said
“Have no fear, men; I bring you glorious news
To all mankind, Pagans and Greeks and Jews.
A child is born this day — hear the glad word —
Who is to be Savior and King and Lord.
A sign from heaven? You'll find the little stranger
Wrapped in a cloth, and lying in a manger.”