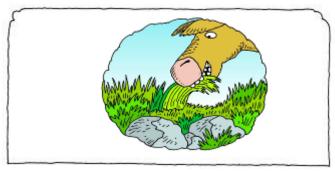
DONKEY's Special Christmas

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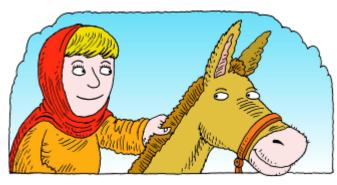
Illustrated by Richard Gunther



I wonder what Joseph's donkey saw and heard, that first special Christmas, when Jesus was born?



Joseph lived in Nazareth. He had to go to Bethlehem to write his name in the King's book. It was the new rule. Mary went too.



Donkey heard Joseph and Mary say that they had seen an angel who told them that Mary would have a baby boy. He was the promised Son of God!



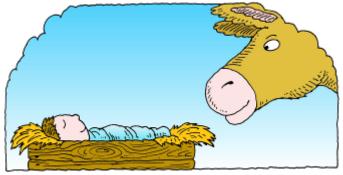
"Hurry, Donkey," Joseph said, "Mary's baby will be born tonight. We need to find a place to stay." They could see the town of Bethlehem up on the hill.



They looked for a place to stay. But there was not one room! Not even one bed! "God will look after us," Joseph said. An Inn Keeper gave them a place to rest, in the stable.



The stable was warm and dry. Donkey saw some hay in a manger box to eat! Joseph said, "We will need a bed for baby. This manger box of hay will be just right." And it was!



That night baby Jesus was born in the stable! Donkey looked in the manger box of hay and saw the little baby fast asleep! "I am glad he has a warm bed," thought Donkey.



Donkey saw many special things a BIG star, angels singing, shepherds and Wise Men who gave baby Jesus presents! Donkey would never forget when baby Jesus was born.