A background image of a nativity scene. Mary is kneeling on the right, looking down at the infant Jesus who is lying in a manger. Joseph is standing on the left, looking towards the baby. The scene is set in a stable with a star shining brightly in the dark blue night sky.

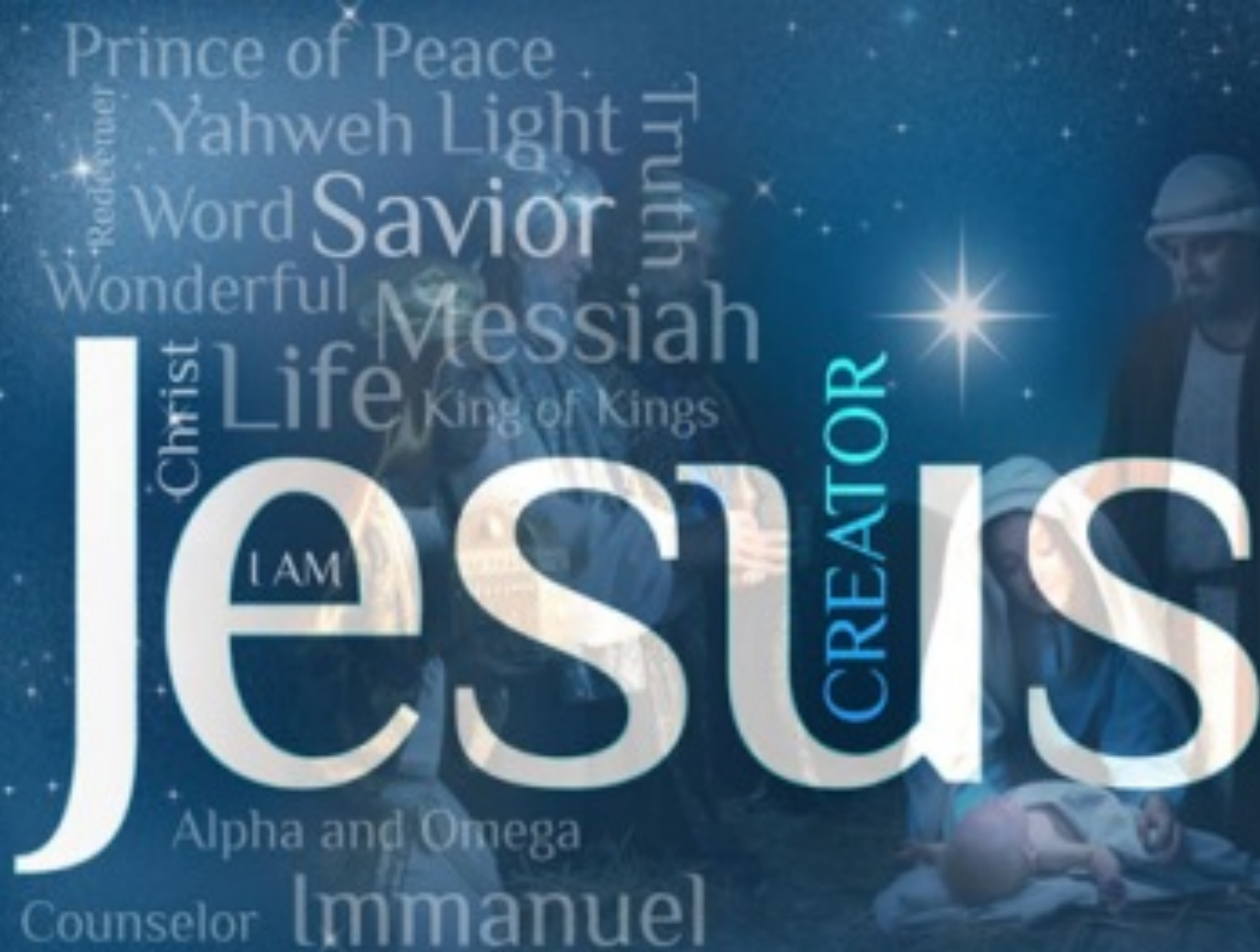
Prince of Peace  
Yahweh Light  
Word Savior  
Wonderful Messiah  
Life  
King of Kings  
Alpha and Omega  
Counselor Immanuel

Redeemer  
Truth  
Christ  
I AM  
CREATOR

# Jesus

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea,  
during the reign of King Herod.

~ Matthew 2:1

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# Jesus

“Scarcely a day passed without an execution under Herod’s regime. The political climate at the time of Jesus’ birth resembled that of Russia in the 1930’s under Stalin. Citizens could not gather in public meetings and spies were everywhere.”

~ Philip Yancey, *The Jesus I Never Knew*

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.” King Herod was deeply *disturbed* when he heard this.

~ Matthew 2:1-3

Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men and learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!”

~ Matthew 2:7-8

Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, based on the wise men's report of the star's first appearance.

~ Matthew 2:16

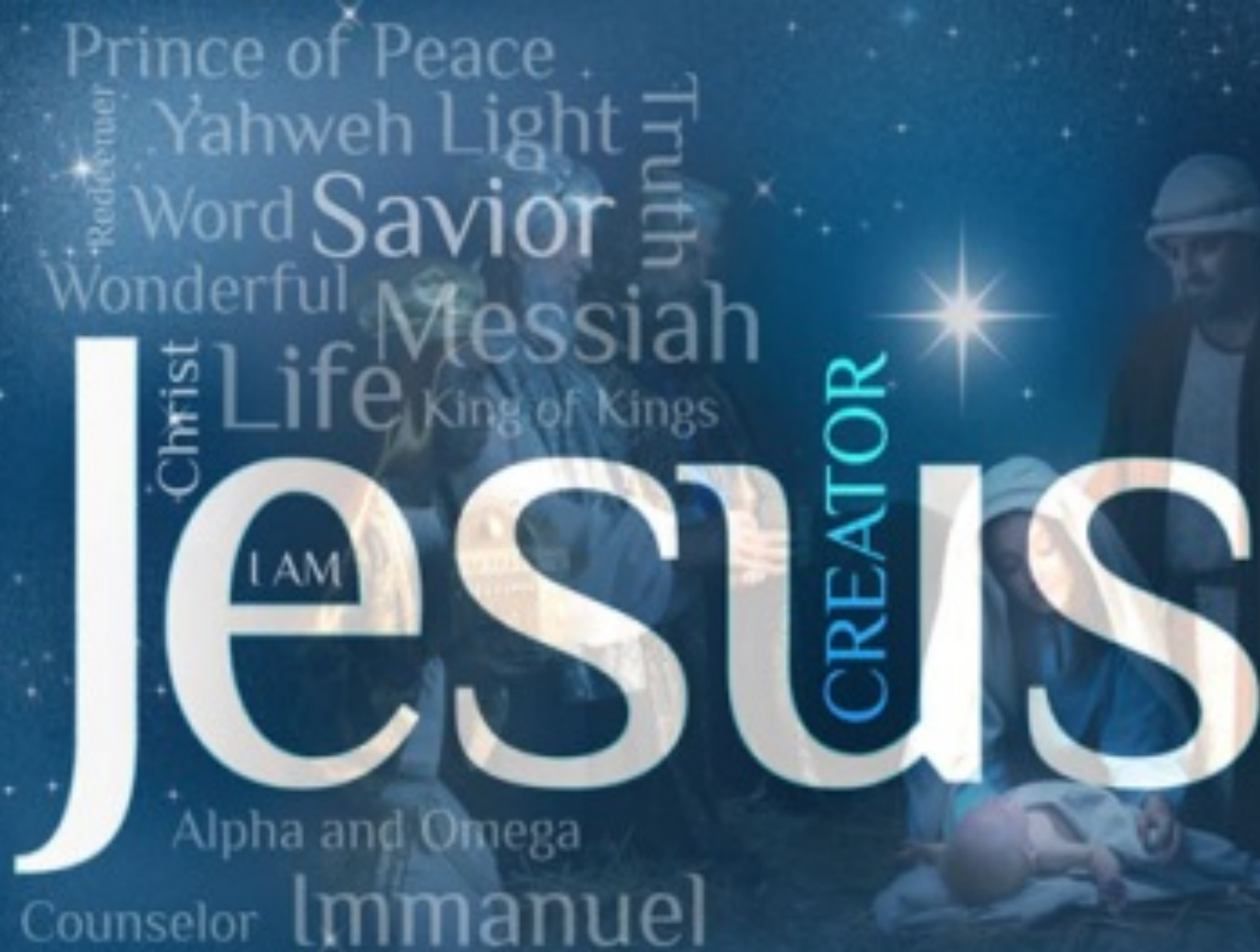
The world hates me *because I accuse it of evil.*

~ John 7:7

If the world hates you, remember that it  
hated me first.

~ John 15:18



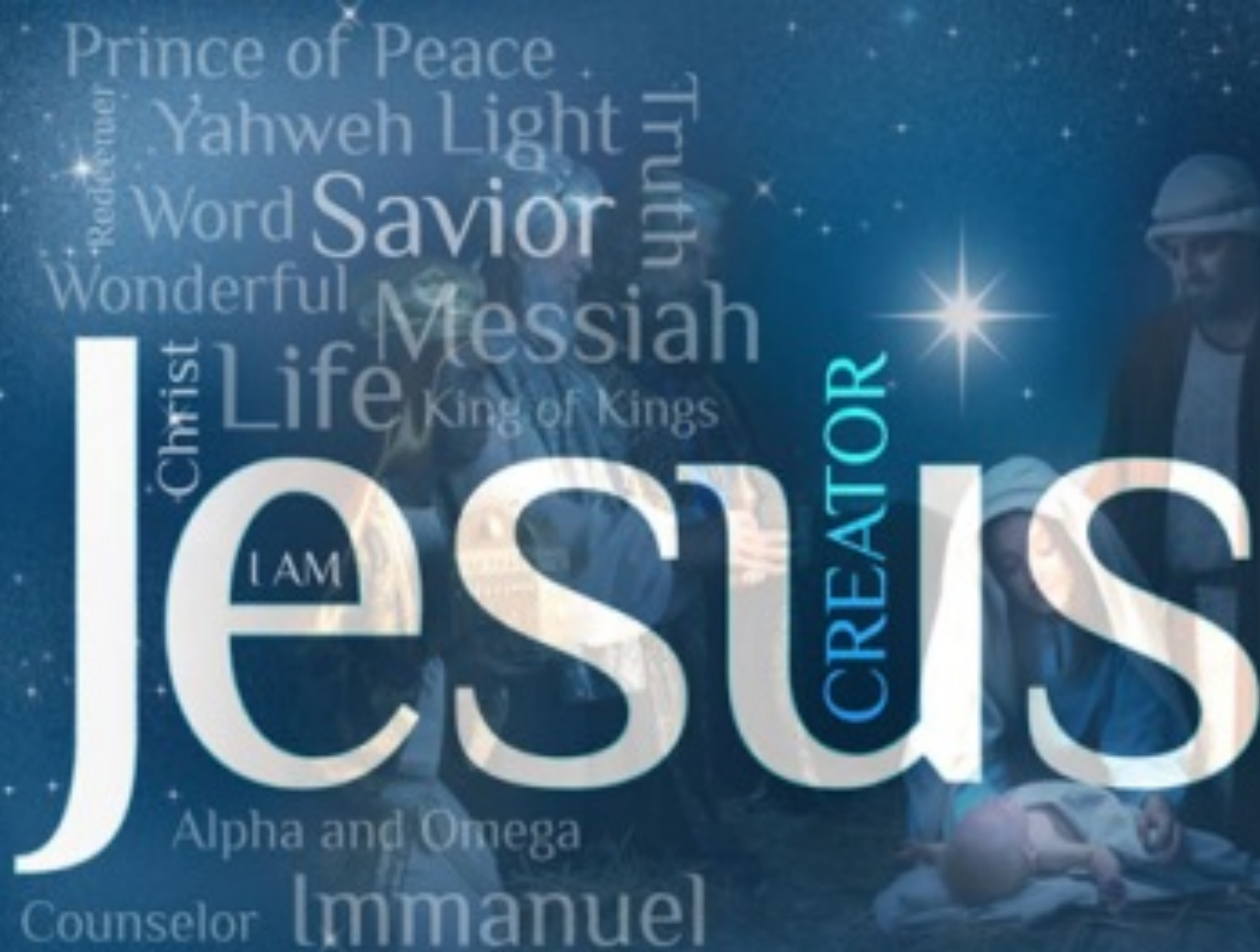
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A hungry person dreams of eating but wakes up still hungry. A thirsty person dreams of drinking but is still faint from thirst when morning comes. So it will be with your enemies, with those who attack Mount Zion.

~ Isaiah 29:8

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