

Making Room for Wonder

Luke 2 & Matthew 2

The innkeeper didn't make room for Jesus.

📖 Luke 2:1–5 (NIV) “In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to his own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.”

📖 Luke 2:6-7 (NIV) “While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”

The king didn't bow to Jesus.

📖 Matthew 2:1–3 (NIV) “After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship him.” ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.”

📖 Matthew 2:7–8 (NIV) “...Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find Him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship Him.”

📖 Matthew 2:9–13 (NIV) “After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route. ¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and His mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill Him.”

The religious didn't go to Jesus.

📖 Matthew 2:4–6 (NIV) “When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: ⁶ “But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.”

📖 John 5:39–40 (NIV) “You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”

📖 Proverbs 3:5–6 (NKJV) “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.”

📖 John 14:2–3 (NKJV) “In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”

📖 John 14:6 (NKJV) “Jesus said...“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

📖 John 3:16 (NKJV) “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

📖 Psalm 119:11 (NIV) “I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.”

Do you have room for wonder? Why do you think wonder is so easily replaced in our lives? Do you think the Innkeeper would have made room for Jesus if He had known who He was? Knowing who Jesus is, do you make room for Him? Herod refused to share his throne with anyone, do you? What does “bowing to Jesus” look like today? Knowledge of the Bible doesn't necessarily mean anything. Agree or disagree? Can you be religious and miss Jesus? **“If the written Word does not lead you to the Living Word it just becomes another word.”** -Tony Evans

