

QUESTIONS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

12-24-23 NOTES

Luke 2:1-7 “And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth his firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger: because there was no room for them in the inn.”

I. THE BLESSING MISSED

A. Missed Then

B. Missed Now

II. HOW DO WE MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS IN OUR LIVES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON AND BEYOND?

STEP 1 – STOP!

Psalms 39:2 (TLB) “But as I stood there silently the turmoil within me grew to the bursting point. The more I mused, the hotter the fires inside. Then at last I spoke and pled with God: 4 Lord, help me to realize how brief my time on earth will be. Help me to know that I am here for but a moment more. 5-6 My life is no longer than my hand! My whole lifetime is but a moment to you. Proud man! Frail as breath! A shadow! And all his busy rushing ends in nothing. He heaps up riches for someone else to spend. 7 And so, Lord, my only hope is in you.”

Psalms 46:10 (NLT) “Be still, and know that I am God!”

- Ask yourself if what you are doing is needed or if it is just something that is taking room in your life from Jesus.

STEP 2- START

Matthew 6:21 (NIV) “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Proverbs 10:27 (TLB) “Reverence for God adds hours to each day; so how can the wicked expect a long, good life?”

- Ask yourself what is expected of you by God and what expectations people may be putting on you.
Philippians 3:13 (MSG) “Friends, don’t get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I’ve got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward — to Jesus. 14 I’m off and running, and I’m not turning back. 15 So let’s keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision — you’ll see it yet! 16 Now that we’re on the right track, let’s stay on it. 17 Stick with me, friends. Keep track of those you see running this same course, headed for this same goal. 18 There are many out there taking other paths, choosing other goals, and trying to get you to go along with them. I’ve warned you of them many times; sadly, I’m having to do it again. All they want is easy street. They hate Christ’s Cross.”

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- Do you look at the Christmas Season, and feel peace, and joy for what Christ has done or do you feel overwhelmed, a sense of dread, and just relief when the Holidays are over?
- Do you have room in your life for Jesus? If not, what is filling up your life, what is taking up all the room in your life?

- Have you taken the time to stop, slow down, rest, reflect, prioritize your life, and keep your life centered on Christ?
- Are you intentional in your life and how you do things?
- What if you made room for Jesus this Holiday Season and beyond?