



Part 2

God is in the House

Luke 2:1 – 20

Luke 1:50 – 53 – ⁵⁰ His mercy extends to **those who fear him**, from generation to generation. ⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has **scattered those who are proud** in their inmost thoughts. ⁵² He has **brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble**. ⁵³ He has **filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty**. (NIV)

3. Jesus being born in the home of friends and family is the ESSENCE of what God is about and what the Christmas Story is about . . .

John 1:14 – The Word became flesh and made his dwelling **among** us.

Matthew 1:23 – “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God **with** us”). (NIV) Quoting Isaiah 7:14

Revelation 3:20 – Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will **come in** and eat with that person, and they with me. (NIV)

Luke 2:1 – 20 – ¹ 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 their 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. ⁶ 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.

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



Luke 1:1 – 4 – ¹ Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us. ² They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples. ³ Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write a careful account for you, most honorable Theophilus, ⁴ so you can be **certain** of the truth of everything you were taught. (NLT)

TWO QUESTIONS: 1. Where was the manger? 2. What was the “inn”?

WHERE WAS THE MANGER?

Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem from Nazareth and were received into someone’s HOME, where Jesus was born.

He was swaddled in cloths, and put into bed in a manger, that was either built into the floor, or made of wood and moved into the living family’s living area.

Luke 12:13 – 21; 1 Kings 17:19; 1 Samuel 28; Judges 11:29 – 40

WHAT WAS THE INN?

The Greek word that is usually translated “inn” is *kataluma*. It is not the normal word for a commercial inn or hotel.

Luke 10:25 – 37 The Greek word in Luke 10:25 – 37 is *pandocheion*.

- The first part of the word – *pan* – means “all.”
- The second part means, “to receive.” The *pandocheion* is the **place that receives all**, that is, a **commercial inn** – a **hotel**.

In Luke 2:7 it is a “*kataluma*” that is crowded, which is literally a PLACE TO STAY – a GUEST ROOM in someone’s home.

Luke 22:10 – 12 – ¹⁰ As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, ¹¹ and say to the owner of the house, “The Teacher asks: Where is the **guest room**, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?” ¹² He will show you a **large room upstairs**, all furnished. Make preparations there.

HOW DO THE SHEPHERDS FIT IN? Luke 2:8 – 14

Verse 12 – “This will be a sign to **you**: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

THREE THINGS TO TAKE AWAY FROM THIS

1. The people of Bethlehem GAVE THEIR BEST and it was enough.

Mark 14:8 – She did what she could.

Q: Do you really open your life to God, to serve him in any way you can, or do you give him just enough to get by?

2. Everyone is INVITED IN . . . shepherds and magi . . . rich and poor.

Matthew 2:9 – 11 – ⁹ After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! ¹¹ They **entered the house** and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they **bowled down and worshiped him**. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (NLT)