

Intro

# NO ROOM IN THE INN

Whatever you believe about the birth of Jesus it was so important that it split history into two parts: before Christ and after Christ.

Into that cold cave among the hills of Bethlehem God entered time and space as an infant. "He is the image of the invisible God" ... he is before all things and in him all things exist hold together → Jesus Christ is God coming into human flesh through the most humble way possible. In Bethlehem the "invisible" God became "visible" - the Creator God descends to live by the rules of his created beings - mankind. What Jesus Christ went on to accomplish on earth made it possible for all the disharmonies between God & man to be resolved - no wonder a choir of angels broke out in song:  
Glory to God in the highest - and on earth peace, good will toward men"

Paul Col. 1  
Luko 2<sup>11</sup>

- If we do not recognize in the person of this infant - an act of almighty God who
- Ⓐ here initiates forgiveness for this rebellious planet
  - Ⓑ if we do not see in Jesus the Word of God made baby flesh then we will be like the people in Bethlehem so many 1000s of years ago - when there was
  - Ⓒ No Room in the Inn

What ever you believe about the birth of Jesus is important that it is true

after Christ  
two parts: before Christ and

B  
infant " God  
time space

part 1

God  
" flesh

visible God  
invisible God  
Creator  
created

born  
born  
born

part 2

not to God  
not to God

Word God  
not see  
baby flesh

No Room in the Inn

4a)

Christmas without Christ is stale, flat,

① People use the phrase "the true meaning of Christmas" to express some vague sentiment of charity. Human goodness is a poor substitute. alternative to Immanuel - the active personal presence of "God with us". Human goodness is unstable. God is not.

② The "spirit of the Season" is a harrid getting and spending, an exchanging of gifts which by the end of Christmas Day leaves us broke, exhausted, and feeling worse than ever. Instead, <sup>we need to see</sup> Christmas is the love of God spent to redeem us from dying - and to enable us to live in His giving living love ourselves forever.

③ Without Christ in Christmas the words "Peace" and "Joy" are mere illusions. This world has never, never by its own wisdom + strength been at peace, and its joy is shattered by real life experiences of pain + death.

④ Christmas without Christ is a shell existence - hollow at the center. People living lives without meaning, nothing spiritual → no God at the center of their being. No wonder they get drunk to alter their consciousness so they don't have to face their impoverished existence.



5 Let's get the perspective of Christmas with Christ in it.

① Christ is the Creator. He created those hills of Bethlehem. The stars - the one which stood over the place where He was born that night

Let us get our perspective straight  
Just look at Isa. 40, ~~Ps. 8:4-8~~ Ps. 8:4-8

He is the transcendent God - the almighty all-powerful creator God

Q → What are you as 1 person? What am I?  
am I significant?

Jesus has answered that question  
Yes - He cares! He cares about you

He cares about me. He knows me and He cares. That's God's answer to me

about my significance: Jesus said it best: "I did not come to judge the

Jesus world but to save the world. I have come as light into the world, that everyone who believes in me may not remain in darkness." (Jo. 12:46-47)

"He who hears my word & believes has eternal life and does not come into judgment but has passed out of death into life" (Jo. 5:24)

He cares - He has come & died for you - for me - and makes it possible for each of us to contain God's life - eternal life

Q → Can you resist that great act of care? Can you still say "There's No Room in my inn?"