

Title: Christmas: Make Room

Text: Luke 2:1-7

Big Idea: Make sure we make room for Jesus this Christmas.

1. God Makes a Way: Nazareth, Mary, Gabriel

Shocking: Mary is a virgin.

Luke 1:38

³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

God Makes a Way: Obstacles

Joseph & Bethlehem

Micah 5:2

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

Bethlehem wasn't on the radar.

Matthew 1:20

²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

1. God makes a way through divine intervention.

Luke 2:1-3

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

2. God makes a way through history. Nebuchanzar, Darius, Cyrus and Xerxes

Not a coincidence: The date was unexpected, had to travel, women had to register.

And the purpose was far more than to provide statistical data for the levy of new taxes in the provinces. The census was used by God to quietly usher in the messiah into an unexpected world, God is amazing.

A good reminder for us today, God makes a way. Calling can be different than opportunity.
Luke 2:4-5

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

Luke 2:6-7

⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Mary and Joseph make it to Bethlehem and they quickly realize that Jesus was going to be making it into the world very soon

Now Bethlehem is packed, this small city, the city is in a gridlock

To essentially pay more taxes to the Roman Empire

Inn- The greek word here is kataluma and is used only two other times in the N.T.
Mark 14:14 and Luke 22:11

God Makes a Way: Here The incarnation, God as a human.
Birth is miraculous.

Miraculous wonder of natural childbirth fused together with the supernatural miracle that God has come to dwell among us. Making Christmas the supreme supernatural natural wonder.

John 1 unpacks this wonder a bit more.

John 1:1 (one page)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Here we see that the word is the 2nd member of the trinity. At the time when all created things were created, the "Word" was already in continuing existence,

Jesus' sacrifice started long before the cross.

He came as a baby committed to the full human experience so he could one day make a full sacrifice on our behalf,

Now the Divine Being took upon
Himself the seal of humanity,
in order for humanity
to be adorned by the
seal of Divinity.

—Saint Isaac of Syria; 7th c.

God with us, God did not send an ambassador, a surrogate, Only the love of God could love *all* of us,
Only the holiness of God could purify *all* of us. Only the power of God could defeat *all* the cosmic evil.

Make Do: Circumstances and Care

The Conditions

Swaddling clothes - not abandoned.

Ezekial 16:4 that the omission of this swaddling would be a token that the child has been abandoned,

From heaven to earth, from the right hand of the father to an animal pen, God has not abandoned his son.

The story of Christmas where God makes way to come and dwell with us.

Application: Make Room:

There was “*no room in the inn.*”

We are too busy and too distracted, we are in love with the idea of Christmas instead of with the reason for Christmas:

This Christmas season the challenge is to make sure to make room for Jesus.

There is a popular saying that has been around for the last couple of decades that says “put Christ back in Christmas.”

How we put Christ back into Christmas is by putting Christ back into the Christian.

We need to proactive not reactive and we pursue a Jesus-first life and try to help others do the same and look for ways to introduce people to Jesus.

we’re inviting you to bring Jesus to the center of your life

Make sure that we make room for Jesus this Christmas