

The Christmas Guests (Luke 2:8-20 & Matthew 2:1-12)

Introduction: “*The joys & challenges of Christmas guests...*”

- I. BIRTH, IN BIBLICAL TIMES, WAS A PUBLIC EVENT
 - A. No private hospital rooms
 - B. Family, neighbours, friends were there
 - C. But Mary & Joseph were alone... for a while

- II. A GROUP OF SHEPHERDS WERE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE STABLE
 - A. They were “blue collar workers on the night shift” (Lk, 2:8)
 - B. They were faithful models for Jesus’ future ministry (Jn. 10:11-15)

- III. WISEMEN CAME LATER TO A HOUSE, NOT TO THE STABLE
 - A. Note what is recorded in Matthew 2:11...
 - B. The Christmas carol *We Three Kings of Orient Are* has at least 3 errors
 - C. Just what is a *Wiseman (Magi)* ??
 - D. What about their gifts of *gold, frankincense, & myrrh*?
 - E. How does their visit relate to the prophecy of Isaiah 60:3?

Conclusion: “*Hooray for Christmas guests!*”