

FROM BETHLEHEM TO CALVARY

The Stable Influence - Advent 2

December 8, 2013

How Far Is It From Bethlehem To The Cross...

- **GEOGRAPHICALLY?**

Micah 5:2 (NLT) *“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel will come from you, one whose origins are from the distant past.”*

- **HISTORICALLY?**

Luke 2:10b-11 (NLT) *“I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people of great joy for everyone. ¹¹The Saviour—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!”*

Luke 23:33a (NIV) *“When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Him there.”*

- **THEOLOGICALLY?**

Luke 2:52 (NCV) *“Jesus became wiser and grew physically. People liked Him, and He pleased God.”*

John 1:14 (NIV) *“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

- **SPIRITUALLY?**

Matthew 2:2 (NIV) *“Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.”*

How Was Jesus Received Spiritually?

- Some were **DISTRACTED** by other things.

Luke 2:6-7 (GW) *“While they were in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to have her Child. ⁷She gave birth to her firstborn Son. She wrapped Him in strips of cloth and laid Him in a manger because there wasn't any room for them in the inn.”*

- Some were **POWER** players.

Matthew 2:16 (NLT) *“Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him.”*

- Some were **TREND** followers.

Luke 2:8, 9, 13, 16 (NLT) *“That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. ⁹Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them... ¹³Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God... ¹⁶They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.”*

Luke 2:17 (NLT) *“After seeing Him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child.”*

John 2:23 (TLB) *“Because of the miracles He did in Jerusalem at the Passover celebration, many people were convinced that He was indeed the Messiah.”*

- Some were into **ACADEMIC** pursuits.

Matthew 2:10-11 (NLT) *“When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! ¹¹They entered the house and saw the child with His mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”*

- Some **COMMITTED** their whole life.

Only when we're completely sold out to Jesus can we understand His life from Bethlehem to Calvary.

Luke 1:38 (NLT) *“Mary responded, ‘I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true.’”*