

Who Missed the Celebration?

Matthew 2: 1-12, 16-18

Luke 2:1-20

Herod the Great...

Pretender

Vs. 8: And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."



Caesarea



Masada



Herod's
Restored
Temple

Application

Are there great
“pretenders” among us?

The chief priests and scribes

Vss. 4-5: And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said...

Application

Have we allowed ourselves
to become spiritually
lethargic?

The Innkeeper

Luke 2:1-7

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child...

...because there was no room for them in the inn.

Application

Is there room for Jesus
“inn” your Christmas?

The Shepherds

Vss. 8-20

... (vss.17-20) Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

Application

How many shepherds are
here today?

Am I being honest with
myself?