**December 18, 2016 “People Who Missed Christmas” Luke 2: 7**

The Bible is such a fascinating book in that it gives such wonderful insight into the lives of people which can and does show us the traps that we also can fall into as Christians.

Christmas can be the time of year for us as the people of God to get distracted from the real meaning of Christmas which is not how many presents we will give or receive. Nor is it about the many controversies that seem to arise every year about whether or not Jesus was born on December 25th or whether or not is OK to have a Christmas tree in your house or church. Or whether Jesus was born in a stable or if it really was just a cave where animals were kept at times.

All of these things are just clutter that Satan wants us to focus on instead of the incredible reality that God became flesh and was born in a stable in Bethlehem.

So today, I want us to look at a number of people who at what should have been the most miraculous time of their lives, completely missed the greatest single event in all of the history of the world.

1. Luke 2: 7
	1. Familiar passage to most of us
		1. Might have heard from little child on
			1. Note the details
				1. She gave birth to her firstborn son
				2. She wrapped Him in cloths
				3. (she) laid Him in a manager
	2. Why would this story be about the person who missed Christmas?
		1. Why were they in the stable?
			1. There was no room for them in the inn
	3. Here we have an innkeeper who is so busy with his own life
		1. He completely missed the greatest miracle in the history of the world
	4. Why does the Bible tell us this story in such great detail?
		1. She gave birth
			1. Who was with her in when the birth occurred?
				1. Any midwives?

Why not?

Surely the innkeeper should have known someone to help

Unless he was too busy to care?

* + - * 1. Joseph was there but what help are husbands at a time like this?

What would he know about helping a woman in childbirth?

* + 1. She wrapped Him in cloths
			1. Usually when a child is born
				1. Immediately washed
				2. Wrapped in a warm blanket
				3. Put a little cap on their head
				4. Given to the mother
			2. No Mary had to do it all herself
		2. Laid Him in a manager
			1. How many of you mothers would have wanted to laid your first child in a cattle trough?

All this because the innkeeper was too busy to care about what was happening almost under his roof

1. Matt 2: 1-6
	1. Vs 4…..he gathered together
		1. Chief priest and scribes
			1. Sadducees were usually the chief priest
				1. Doctorates in the Law
			2. Pharisees were usually the scribes
				1. Meticulous in the adherence to the Law
	2. Why did none of them come?
		1. They had been promised a Messiah
			1. From Adam, on
				1. Seed of the woman will bruise the serpent’s head
			2. Abraham
				1. God will provide Himself a lamb
			3. Prophets
				1. Malachi 4
	3. Why did they miss out?
		1. Indifference
			1. They were OK with God
			2. They were fine with the way things were
	4. Who was called in?
		1. Luke 2: 8-20
			1. Shepherds
				1. Who smell like sheep
				2. These were the lower caste people of Israel
				3. They couldn’t even wash their hands before they ate
				4. Yet only a few miles away the ruling class missed out on Christmas

What does that say about our comfortable lives? Are we to comfortable to be bother by Jesus? Do we have a take it or leave attitude about Him?

1. Luke 2: 39-40
	1. People of Nazareth
		1. Jesus lived among them
		2. Worked among them
		3. Grew up with them
	2. Luke 4: 16-29
		1. They knew all about Him but did not know Him at all
			1. Acts 9: 3-6
			2. Phil 3: 5-6

Knowing all about Christ is not the same a knowing Him as your Lord and only Savior.

 “For God, did not send His Son into the world to judge the world but that the world might be saved through Him.” (John 3: 17)

Do you know Him this Christmas?