Christmas, A Line In Time Between Yes And No

Luke 2:1-10

The Innkeeper

- Humanity is divided into two groups: Those who say 'No' to Jesus and those who say 'Yes.'
- There was no lodging available in the inn for Mary and Joseph.
- While there was no lodging for them, there was lodging for others. Why:
 - Maybe greed on the innkeeper's part meant that the room was priced well out of Joseph's reach.
 - Maybe the innkeeper had something against people from Nazareth.
 - Maybe the innkeeper just did not want someone who was obviously about to go into labor in one of their rooms.
- Today, when Jesus is rejected, it is not because there is no room in the person's life, there is no room for Christ in their life.

King Herod

- King Herod represents all who are vehemently opposed to what Jesus taught and for all He stands.
- King Herod was insanely suspicious of those he thought were a threat to his rule.
- Herod sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under.
- This genocide was not mentioned in history since it would have been 25-30 children.
- The only people who would have been outraged at this tragedy would have been the families.
- There are those who are not content to say "no" to Jesus but are evangelistic in their desire for no one else to say "yes."

The Stable

- There was room in the stable, and the stable belonged to someone.
- They stayed in the stable, long enough for Jesus to be born and long enough for the shepherds to visit.
- They moved out before the Magi arrived because Matthew tells us that the Magi visited the child in a house.
- Regardless of why Jesus and His family ended up in the stable, it did serve a purpose.
- The shepherds would have felt more comfortable and welcome coming to a stable than coming into an inn or a private home.

Conclusion

- Jesus began his life not at the top of the economic and social ladder but at the bottom.
- We do not know where the Wise Men came from, how long they had been travelling, how many there were, or where they went afterward.
- We do know that they came from a great distance bearing their gifts of love, but greater than those gifts was the fact that they brought themselves.
- Jesus began His life born in a stable that belonged to someone else and ended His life buried in a tomb that belonged to someone else.
- Will you make room for Jesus?