

## The Innkeeper

17th December 2017

Luke 2:1-20,

Although the Luke passage doesn't specifically mention an innkeeper having a conversation with Joseph and Mary we assume there was indeed a conversation at a door that surely took place that night Jesus was born. As we read the text again we are reminded of the exact details that were recorded and why it was that Joseph and Mary ended up in a place where the animals were bedded down for the night. It also helps remind us of why all the rooms were filled and what was causing so many people to be in Bethlehem at that time (vs. 1-7).

Bethlehem was packed with people who were in town to be counted for the census. That's why Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem. Then, the innkeeper was faced with a decision to close the door in their face or invite them into his care and prepare them room. His decision was a point that impacted the balance of history we still celebrate today. It foreshadows of another scene of 'Jesus standing at the door and knocking' in the book of Revelation 3:20.

In a way, we may be in the same position as the innkeeper faced on in that first Christmas. When there was a knock on the door the innkeeper had to make a decision either to open up and prepare him room or to close the door because of no vacancy in the inn. However, the same decision is required to our hearts and lives. If we were the innkeeper, how would we react? If we were the innkeeper to the hearts, how much room would we have on the inside for Jesus? Is there any space for Jesus in your hearts that are filled with so many cares, worries, wonders, and other things? How much space in your life is being allocated this Christmas to people, places, presents, feasts, festivities, and family traditions? As the innkeeper, is there room for Jesus? If so, which room has been prepared for him?