

## Luke 2:7

*And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

What if we really saw the birth of Jesus for how it really happened? A lot of people don't want to think about that, because they don't want it to spoil the "magic" of Christmas. Well, when you say that, you are not celebrating Jesus' birth, but you are celebrating a false image of the birth of Jesus and not the truth.

Also "God" and "Magic" do not go hand in hand, because magic is actually a false image, with trickery being used to make others believe a lie. So those who seek the "magic" of Christmas, are seeking after a feeling and a false interpretation of what really happened on the day that Jesus was born. But what if all of your so called magic of Christmas (False images) came to light and you saw it for what it really is and what really happened?

Things like:

- There was no clear skies with a single twinkling star overhead, because there were hundreds of thousands of stars that could be seen. And the star guided the wisemen who came two years later and was not a light guiding others on the day that Jesus was born. Rather an angel guided the shepherds, and the angel never told them to follow a star, but rather he told them exactly where to find baby Jesus.
- There was no snow at all, because it wasn't even the winter, but rather Spring or even the heat of Summer.
- Mary and Joseph did not end up in a barn, but rather in a cave where animals were kept, with no ventilation, so you could just imagine the smell, because there were animal drool and droppings all over.
- The manger was a feeding trough that was not a cute little wooden structure all clean and prime and proper, but was usually made out of a large boulder and there was animal saliva all over it, (think feeding trough and animals drooling all over it as they eat.)
- It wasn't a silent night and all serene like the song says it was, but it was probably noisy and hectic outside since so many had been there for the census, and there was no where for anyone to lodge. So there were people everywhere, talking, laughing, shouting, even celebrating as they were seeing family and friends that they may not have seen for years.
- Also think about how people thought that Mary got pregnant before she was married, and even though today, in this fallen world, it is the norm, 2,000 years ago it was bad, so much so that the woman could be stoned to death because of it. So the town was not rejoicing with Mary and Joseph like they should had been. Instead, they were probably looking down on them both, with gossip very likely spreading about how this unwed mother had a baby.

So, as you read this, you may be wondering if I am trying to ruin your Christmas?

The answer is no, not at all. But if we are going to celebrate Jesus, let's celebrate the truth of what happened, and since we do not know the actual day or even month that Jesus was born, it's ok to celebrate it on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Just think if you adopted a child and the date of birth was not known, so whatever date you choose, probably would not be the child's birthdate, but that's okay, because you are celebrating the birth of the child, not a date.

Also right now it's the middle of summer with tremendous heat being everywhere. What if Jesus was born during the heat of the summer, like right now. How different does that make your celebration of Jesus' birth?

So, celebrate Jesus being born, but don't do it for that "magic feeling" to come upon you, because you are celebrating a lie when you do. But instead, read the Christmas story to your kids or even to yourself before any other celebration happens on that day. You can also celebrate His birth right now, today, because you never know, it could be this day. But then we celebrate Jesus, not a day.

† **Acts 13:32-33 (MSG)** *And we're here today bringing you good news: the Message that what God promised the fathers has come true for the children—for us! He raised Jesus, exactly as described in the second Psalm: My Son! My very own Son! Today I celebrate you!*

† **John 5:23** *that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.*

† **2 Peter 1:17** *For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*