

# DON'T MISS CHRISTMAS

December 17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Pastor Steve

## Reasons Why People Miss Christmas:

### I) \_\_\_\_\_ (The Innkeeper)

<sup>1</sup> In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to his own town to register. <sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths & placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Luke 2:1-7 (NIV)

### II) \_\_\_\_\_ (The Religious Leaders)

A) <sup>1</sup> Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, <sup>2</sup> "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him." <sup>3</sup> King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?" <sup>5</sup> "In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote: <sup>6</sup> 'And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.'" <sup>7</sup> Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" Matthew 2:1-8

B) But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel will come from you, one whose origins are from the distant past. Micah 5:2

C) Their minds are full of darkness; they wander far from the life God gives because they have closed their minds and hardened their hearts against him. Ephesians 4:18

### III) \_\_\_\_\_ (King Herod)

A) King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. Matthew 2:3

B) Some of these people have missed the most important thing in life—they don't know God... 1 Timothy 6:21a (TLB)

## To NOT Miss Christmas I:

- I) \_\_\_\_\_ filling my life with less important things.
- A) We are merely moving shadows, and all our busy rushing ends in nothing. We heap up wealth, not knowing who will spend it. Psalm 39:6
  - B) "Be still, and know that I am God!" Psalm 46:10a
  - C) Reverence for God adds hours to each day... Proverbs 10:27 (TLB)
- II) \_\_\_\_\_ closely at why Jesus came.
- A) Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" Matthew 2:8
  - B) Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11 (NIV)
  - C) You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)
  - D) The father instantly cried out, "I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!" Mark 9:24
- III) \_\_\_\_\_ to the good news of Christmas.
- A) <sup>9</sup> Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, <sup>10</sup> but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. <sup>11</sup> The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! Luke 2:9-11
  - B) The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. John 10:10 (NIV)
  - C) God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him. John 3:17