

## Chapter 1 : WONDER OF CHRISTMAS (THE). (eMusic, ) [blog.quintoapp.com]

*A wide range of Christmas-related topics such as the following will be covered: the origin and meaning of Christmas, Christmas cards, Christmas decorations, Christmas crafts, Christmas stories, Christmas music, and Christmas gift ideas.*

More often than not the case is that over time the more familiar we are with something the less fascination we have with it. We get tired of things very quickly. Things that once fascinated us, now bring little emotion. A young person gets a new CD and listens to it over and over again but eventually the CD gets old and sits on a shelf un-listened to. An adult gets a new car but after six months the newness has worn off and he wants a new one. The newness fades and we lose the wonder. And that happens often with us at Christmastime too. We have heard the Christmas story over and over and slowly the wonder of what occurred some 2, years ago diminishes. It fails to do much for us spiritually. The old, old story, has become just that the old, old story. And so this morning I want us to study Luke chapter 2, which is the account of the birth of Jesus Christ. Hopefully by studying it again we will become reacquainted with the wonder and awe of the Christmas story. And what I want us to see is how the coming of Jesus to this world immediately began to change the lives of those around him. So open your Bibles, to Luke chapter 2 Luke chapter 2 as we recount the wonder of that first Christmas. And first I want you to see the change that Jesus brought to the lives of Mary and Joseph. This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to his own town to register. Luke wants us to know that these events really took place and that they are not fairy tales he invented. He wrote in Luke 1: They happened in real time. I think it is also interesting to note that those who were important at that time, Caesar Augustus and Quirinius are unimportant now. And that those who were insignificant are now the ones we remember. No one knows who Caesar Augustus is nowadays, but all of us know of the people of the Christmas story. I mean we name our children, Joseph and Mary and Zach. We name our dogs, Caesar, Nero. No one even uses the name Quirinius anymore. He went there to register Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. These censuses were usually given every fourteen years. And in order to register for the census everyone had to return to their ancestral home. It would be like me returning to Mason, OH my hometown. Joseph had been born in Bethlehem and spent his entire childhood there before taking residence in Nazareth. The trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem was a notoriously rough three day trip by foot. William Barclay points out that the journey was quite primitive and that even though Mary probably rode upon a donkey, the roadway was particularly bumpy and not suitable for a young woman nine months pregnant. Now understand that Mary and Joseph were not fully married at this time. A betrothal was sort of like a binding engagement that lasted one year. After the year of betrothal was up the couple went through a formal marriage ceremony and were allowed to live together and have sexual relations. Now verse 5 says that Mary was with child. Meaning that she was not pregnant through relations with Joseph but through the supernatural intervention of the Holy Spirit. God had worked a miracle and made a virgin conceive a child. Earlier in Luke chapter 1 we read that God sent the angel Gabriel to the virgin Mary. You are highly favored by God and He is with you. You will be with child and give birth to a son and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever.

## Chapter 2 : The Wonder of Christmas

*The Wonder of Christmas. The Wonder of Christmas. Save 30%. Compare. The Wonder of Christmas Leader Kit. Abingdon Press. ISBN*

By Jamie Rohrbaugh I leaned forward in my seat, caught up by the music coming from the choir and symphony orchestra. Strangely, though, the music made me both happy and sad at the same time. You see, I grew up in a very legalistic religious tradition. In that tradition, joy was not a highly valued character trait. Instead, the people around me endorsed somber attitudes, doom-and-gloom, and a lot of conspiracy theories. How could I be joyful while I was being told that I was sinning against God? Fast forward many years. However, the other half of me was wracked with worry and condemnation. Was I sinning against God by celebrating what I had always been told was a pagan holiday? In that moment, sitting in that church seat, I cried out to God for help. I want to celebrate your birth. I want to worship you as Emmanuel, without feeling condemned for it. Give me back the wonder of Christmas. I was suddenly inspired to decorate a tree, cook special meals, spend time with my family in special ways, and “yes” even hang a stocking by the chimney with care. More importantly, I was overcome with wonder at the miracle of the Christ-child. I suddenly saw the beauty of my Lord Jesus, the King of Heaven and earth, who humbled himself and came to earth as a man. What kind of God divests himself of his royal privilege and stoops so low? And mostly, I saw the miracle of Emmanuel. This same Jesus flung the galaxies into their places with a flick of his fingers. This same Jesus is celebrated, worshiped, and adored by all the hosts of heaven. This Jesus came to live with people “with me. He came to walk and talk among us. We got to touch and talk with him. We got to eat with him, walk with him, and listen to his teachings in person with enraptured ears. God himself with us. I had been missing the wonder of Emmanuel all this time. That year, however, the Lord redeemed my sense of Christmas. To be perfectly honest, I have no idea if the Christmas holiday has any undesirable traditions associated with it from medieval history or not. My life has been changed. And all that happened because of this baby, the Christ-child. It happened because the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory: I now have a new life because this baby chose to humble himself and come to earth as a man, walk among us, and trudge one day up a lonely hill called Calvary, pouring out his life-blood for you and me. And because of his life, I can live also. But none of these things would have happened if he had not first come to earth as a baby and lain in a manger, when there was no room for him in the inn. I celebrate Christmas because I need this truth of Emmanuel. My soul needs this. My spirit needs this. I want to stare in wonder and worship at my King, lying in a stinky, smelly, dirty bed of straw by choice. So I have decided to thank him. I have decided to ponder the wonder and miracle of Christmas. I have decided to give honor where honor is due “to Christ the Lord, born a man beneath his privilege. And just because it tickled us to do so, I bought a Nativity scene last year. This year, I put up a Christmas tree “in October! I hung the stockings with care and have been playing Christmas music for weeks. God rest ye merry, beloved. May the blessing and wonder of Emmanuel be yours this Christmas season as well. Jamie Rohrbaugh Jamie is an author, speaker, and Presence seeker whose heart is for the local church. Called to edify, encourage, and equip the Body of Christ, her passion is to see sons and daughters of all ages transformed by the strong love of Abba Father. Jamie blogs at FromHisPresence. Living for Another Age; Arise, Shine: A Vision Retreat Handbook; and Ruth: A Study of Favor, Redemption, and Restoration. Her articles can be seen around the web, including on WorshipMinistry.

## Chapter 3 : The Wonder of Christmas “ 55 Accord Park Drive Norwell, MA

*The Wonder of Christmas. Luke A ninety year old couple sat on the front porch one night. The old man was overcome with the romance of the evening and he said to his hard of hearing wife, "I'm proud of you." "Huh," she said.*

## Chapter 4 : The Wonder of Christmas - Wikipedia

## DOWNLOAD PDF THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS

*The seventh wonder of Christmas is the wonder of HIS DEATH-freely given, undeserved, but affecting a lasting relationship for each person with our Heavenly Father. The eighth wonder is the wonder of HIS RESURRECTION.*

### Chapter 5 : The Wonder of Christmas - Mormon Tabernacle Choir | Songs, Reviews, Credits | AllMusic

*The Wonder of Christmas was recorded during the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's Christmas shows in the LDS Conference Center with special guests Angela Lansbury, Bryn Terfel, Audra McDonald, Frederica von Stade, Renée Fleming, and Walter Cronkite. The album was released in*

### Chapter 6 : The Wonder Of Christmas Sermon by Aaron Burgess, Luke - blog.quintoapp.com

*The Wonder of Christmas is a great book to share with your children during this Christmas season. It will afford you many opportunities for meaningful conversation with your children about the true meaning of the Christmas story each time you read it.*

### Chapter 7 : Toilet Paper Roll Christmas Tree | The Wonder of Christmas

*Even in the midst of the added stress that comes with buying gifts, spending time with extended family, and the overall bustle that comes with the holidays, Christmas brings out a childlike wonder and joy that is rare in our culture today.*

### Chapter 8 : The Wonder of Christmas: Dandi Daley Mackall, Dave Hill: blog.quintoapp.com: Books

*The Wonder of Christmas - Behind the Scenes Even though it's early October and you haven't even started stocking up on your Halloween candy, the creative design team at Roger's Gardens have been busy little elves.*

### Chapter 9 : | The Wonder of Christmas

*The Wonder of Christmas is an Advent experience that explores the wonder of Christmas through the lens of four elements from the Christmas story: a star, a name, a manger, and a promise.*