

No Room In The Inn

Luke 2:1-7

NO ROOM AT
THE INN.



There is no room in the inn

- But you know something; this simple little statement about there being no room in the Inn becomes a symbol for Luke.
- As he writes his gospel it almost becomes a theme.
- Luke takes this one line, “There is no room in the inn,” and shows us how this phrase was recurrent throughout Jesus’ ministry.
- The question that Luke leaves for us is--will there ever be any room for him?

There is no room for Jesus in the world

- There was no room for Jesus in the economic world.
- There was no room for Jesus in the legal realm.
- There was no room for Jesus in the realm of the religious order.
- There was no room for Jesus in the world of politics.

Do you have room for Jesus Christ?

- In Economic, legal, religious, and political realms-- wherever Jesus turned there was no room for him.
- What began first in Bethlehem when the innkeeper turned him away was to become a recurrent theme.
- Let's look at us today--to you and to me.
- Do we have room for Christ in our lives? When the innkeeper was presented with this unexpected situation that night, he faced what I call our universal dilemma. At that point he became every man.
- Every man is asked: Do you have room for the Messiah?

Jesus is knocking at the door

- The fact is that the Messiah comes knocking at the door of our hearts many times in life, in various ways, through various people, in various events.
- So the Messiah comes to us just as he came to the Bethlehem innkeeper.
- Not in the form of a King with his entire splendour, but in the form of people in need--like Mary and Joseph.
- And whether or not we receive Christ in depends on how we respond to these people.



“I stand at
the door and
knock”
- Revelation 3:20

Don't send Him away

- The innkeeper claimed that he had no room. Isn't the crowded inn a rather appropriate symbol of our lives?
- So cluttered (not with important things but with things that don't amount to a hill of beans) that there is just no time, no energy, no money, no room left over.
- There is just no room in our lives for the Messiah.

Jesus comes at the unexpected time

- And invariably, just as in Bethlehem, the Messiah comes to us when we so often least expect him.
- You'll notice that Mary and Joseph did not make their appearance at the beginning of the rush season but late in the night when the poor innkeeper was tired and irritable after a hard day's work.
- Then comes the knock on the door...the unexpected knock of destiny.

Watch and Wait

- So the advent message to us is to watch and wait. Keep our minds and our hearts open for his coming.
- For the hour approaches when Messiah will come to you and to me.
- And like the Bethlehem innkeeper we will be forced to make a decision.
- Will our lives be so cluttered with incidentals that there will be no room for God? Or will we open the door and gladly welcome him in.

Conclusion

- To the innkeeper, the knock that came that night was just another of a long series of bothersome interruptions.
- That is how some respond to God in their life.
- Yes. Take the stable! Do anything; just leave me alone.
- God knocks at the door of every person.
- The question is--will there be room enough in your life to let him in.

Each of us is
an Innkeeper
who decides
if there is
room for Jesus

-Neal A. Maxwell