



MAYHEM IN THE MANGER

Luke 2:1-7

Rev. Steve Vaughn December 14, 2025

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6 NIV

ISAIAH 9.6



"[Mary] gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."



-In Luke's Gospel the word which is typically translated as "inn" is the Greek word kataluma. Logic suggests that there is some basis for this translation.

1)Bethlehem probably had no inn or hotel since it was only six miles from Jerusalem, a mere two-hour walk.

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2)Bethlehem was not located on a main highway. The Roman roads in that region bypassed the City of David and went directly to Jerusalem.

In all probability, this small village had no need for an inn.



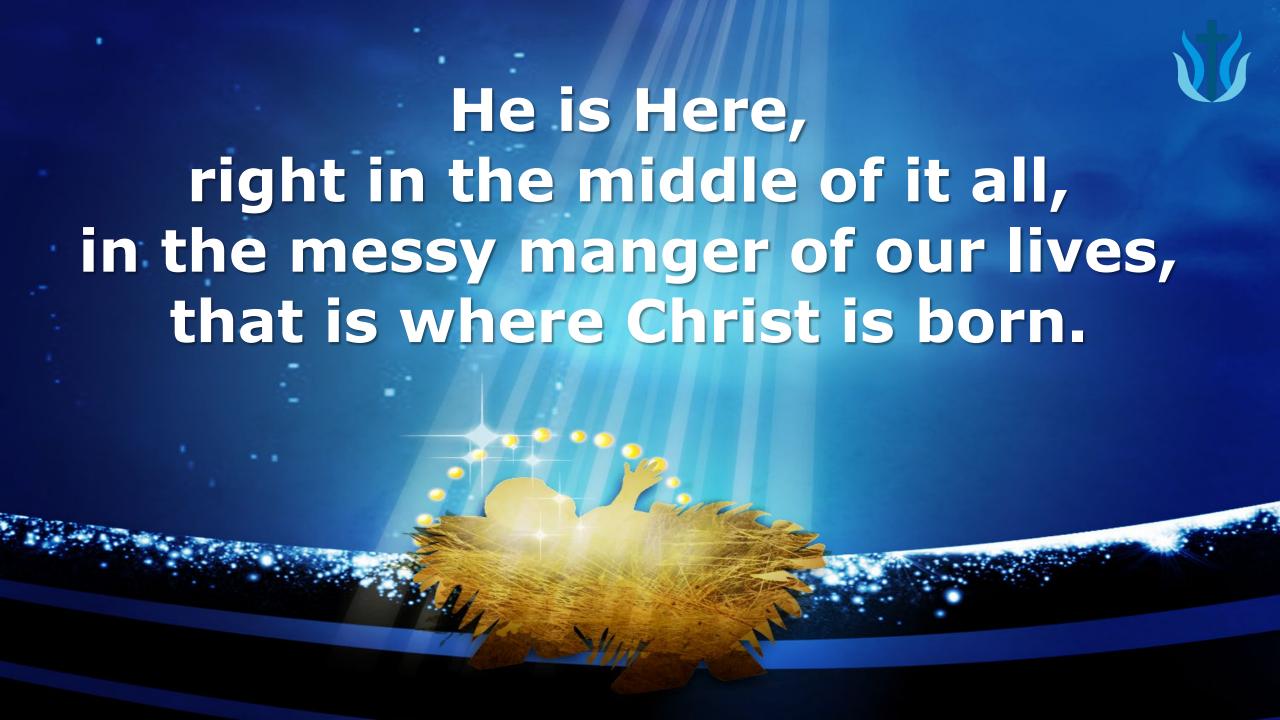


Luke wanted his readers to hear something very special. He wanted his words to convey the notion that Jesus, the Son of God, was born, not off in the guest room, but right in the midst of smelly hay, snorting animals, anxious on-lookers, and the tenderness and love of the family circle.

If we experience the birth of Christ during Christmas, it will not be in the guest rooms of our lives, but right in the middle of it all.



That's where Christ is born, in the small, smelly, crowed cradles of our hearts.



If Jesus was born like a peasant child, the event of his birth becomes something very positive and powerful. It means that Jesus is one of us. It means that God is present in the events and lives of ordinary people It means God is with us.

