



DIOCESE OF TIRUNELVELI  
BETHESDA C.S.I. TAMIL CHURCH  
PUNE  
**DABARUM**



**GOD'S PROMISE FOR THIS MONTH**

எல்லா நன்மைகளும் தேவனிடமிருந்தே வருகின்றன. ஒவ்வொரு முழுமையான வரமும் அவரிடமிருந்தே வருகின்றது. இவை, சூரியன், சந்திரன், நட்சத்திரங்கள் போன்றவற்றை உருவாக்கிய பிதாவிடமிருந்தே வருகின்றன. அவர் மாறுவதில்லை. எப்பொழுதும் ஒரே மாதிரியாக இருக்கிறார்.  
யாக்கோபு 1:17

**MESSAGE FOR THE MONTH**

**Majesty in the Manger**

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,  
Greetings in the name of the Dayspring from on high, Immanuel, the Word made flesh, Jesus, our Savior, Christ, the Lord. As we approach another joyous celebration of Christ's birth, I wanted to share a few thoughts with you about manger.

**This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger. (Luke 2:12)**

The birth of Jesus was surrounded by many miracles. From the appearances of the angels, to the virgin birth, to the star, to the sparing of Jesus' life, the hand of God is clearly visible in the birth of Jesus into this world. But, when I think of the birth of Jesus, one of the most exciting statements is found in verse 7, **And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.** Think about it, a manger is a feeding trough for animals. It wasn't a bad place for feeding sheep or cattle, but to me it certainly was no place for a baby to be placed, much less the Son of God. But, if you think about it, there are some pretty important reasons why Jesus was placed in a manger at His birth. This month, I want to share with you some reasons Jesus was placed away in a Manger and how these reasons apply to us.

**1. Alienation**

Lk 2: 7b says that Mary and Joseph wound up in an animal stall because, "there was no room for them in the inn." Now to us, this would be no big deal. If we were to see a "No Vacancy" sign, we'd just look for another motel. Chances are, we'd have no trouble finding another room. But we can't think like Westerners when it comes to Mary and Joseph's dilemma. In ancient Palestine, an inn was a place where not only travelers stayed, but also a place where the locals would congregate for a night on the town. And in small towns like Bethlehem, the local inn would be an especially rough hangout. The destitute and the town drunk would be there. The pimp and his prostitutes would be there. The pusher and peddler would be there. The local Bethlehem Inn was not an attractive little roadside cottage. Instead, it was more like a saloon! And during this time of the year, while the census was taking place, the inn would be filled to capacity. So there was literally, no room in the inn. But besides that, why would Mary and Joseph even go to the inn in the first place? Vs. 3-4 says, "And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because

he was of the house and lineage of David:)" Luke 2:3-4. I mean, Bethlehem was Joseph's home town. He had clan there! Surely, he would have looked for shelter among his own people! Wasn't there an uncle or aunt there who would have a place for their nephew and his very pregnant wife? Or maybe a cousin could have spared a bed for a night or two! You'd think his own kin would put them up for a night at least! But no! They were forced to go to the inn, as a last resort.

So, let's not put all the blame on the innkeeper. Even Joseph's own people were ashamed of him. Even his own kinfolk turned their backs on him because his wife was pregnant out of wedlock. His own people had no room for them in their lives. When God came to the earth to redeem His own people, they responded with their backs turned. "Go away!" "You're not welcome here." "Leave us alone. We don't know you." Well, things haven't changed much in 2,000 years! God's creation is still alienating Him from their lives. There is still no room for Jesus in many parts of our society. The question you and I need to answer for ourselves is this: Have we made room for Jesus in our hearts? He was unwanted then, and for the most part, He still is! But there's a second reason Jesus was placed in a manger:

**2. Association (Identification)**

The only use for a feeding trough was for animals to eat from. It was placed where the animals could reach it, but the only people who went there were the animal owners. When Jesus allowed Himself to be laid away in that manger, He was associates Himself first,

**A. Man's Poverty** - Jesus knows about our needs. "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." (2 Cor. 8:9). He knows our poverty, and has promised to meet our need.

**B. Man's Problems** - He knows about our struggles. "He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not." (Isaiah 53:3) "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Hebrews 4:15-16) He knows about the trials we face and He has identified Himself with them. Therefore, He is able to help us through our troubles and meet the needs of our lives.

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**C. Man's Priorities** - When Jesus came to this world, He knew that man was basically greedy and in love with wealth and the pursuit of it. He came to teach us that there is a higher priority in life. And, that priority is the glory of the Father! He was born in that humble manger to remind men that our greatest ambition is to seek the glory of Almighty God ahead of everything else. "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."(Mt. 6:33)

But there's a third reason Jesus was laid in a manger:

### 3. Accessibility (Approachability)

Imagine that Jesus had been born in Herod's palace. Imagine Him having a golden crib to sleep in, and imagine that He enjoyed a life of plenty. Imagine Him being separated from the common man by the walls and guards of a king's palace. If that were the case, would you feel as though you could come to Him at any time? Probably not! But thank God He was not born in a palace. Instead, He was born in a manger and made Himself accessible to all who would come to Him. Luke 2 records the visit of the shepherds. These common men were able to approach Him in the manger. Later, even the wise men, these educated, wealthy men felt at home bowing before Him at the manger. Jesus could not be the Savior of all if He were not accessible to all. Jesus would be available to all who desired to come to Him. Thank God, whosoever will can find whatsoever

they will ever need in Jesus. From the lowliest man to the most influential ruler, all men have a right to come to Jesus. My dear children of God, there's room at the manger for everyone this Christmas and any time during the year. Away at the manger is where you can find the answer to your problems. Away in a manger you can find nourishment for your hungry soul.

The late **Charles Haddon Spurgeon** summarized the wonderful Christmas story this way and I will close:

*The scene at Bethlehem is one of utter simplicity: A mother.....A father .....and a baby.*

*Thus was "the word made flesh" to dwell among us.*

*What God does is both simple and clear. And the message to us today is simple and clear.*

*Those who come to Christ in simple faith shall truly find peace.*

*Young women should come to Christ for Mary was a young woman who was God's instrument for bringing Christ into the world.*

*Young men should come to Christ for Joseph was a young man who had great faith in God when doubts about Mary's pregnancy might have turned him the other way.*

*Old women should come to Christ for Anna was an old woman*

*Who looked for the coming of the Messiah.*

*Old men should come to Christ for the aged Simeon waited for the consolation of Israel.*

*Working men and women should come to Christ for the Shepherds were hard-working men who made their living with their hands.*

*And the highly educated should come to Christ just as the Wise Men came from the east bearing gifts and bowing down to worship the King of all kings and the Lord of all lords.*

***Merry Christmas & Happy New Year***

## STORY FOR THE MONTH

### D. L. Moody: A Shoe Salesman

***"Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'" (Matthew 19:26)***

Dwight L. Moody was a poorly educated, unordained, shoe salesman who felt God's call to preach the gospel. Early one morning and some friends gathered in a hay field for a season of prayer, confession, and consecration. His friend Henry Varley said, "The world has yet to see what God can do with and for and through and in a man who is fully and wholly consecrated to Him." Moody was deeply moved by these words. He later went to a meeting where Charles Spurgeon was speaking. In that meeting Moody recalled the words spoken by his friend, "The world has yet to see ... with and for and through and in ... a man!" Varley meant any man! Varley didn't say he had to be educated, or brilliant, or anything else. Just a man! Well, by the Holy Spirit in him, he'd be one of those men. Then suddenly, in that high gallery, he saw something he'd never realized before.



It was not Mr. Spurgeon, after all, who was doing that work; it was God. And if God could use Mr. Spurgeon, why should He not use

the rest of us, and why should we not all just lay ourselves at the Master's feet and say to Him, "Send me! Use me!"?

D. L. Moody was an ordinary man who sought to be fully and wholly committed to Christ. God did extraordinary things through this ordinary man. Moody became one of the great evangelists of modern times. He founded a Bible college, Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, which sends out men and women trained in service for God.

Are you an ordinary man or woman in whom God wants to do extraordinary things? God desires that for every child of His. Ask God to do extraordinary things in your life. Begin today to trust Him to accomplish great things for His Kingdom through you.

## BIRTH OF A SONG (Hark the Herald Angel Sing)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing remains one of the most well known, and, in my opinion, the most theologically filled Christmas carols. This song was written in 1739 by Charles Wesley, brother of John Wesley, who founded the Methodist denomination. Charles still

holds fame for writing over 6,000 hymns along with the lyrics of over 2,000 more. Some you may recognize include: And, Can it Be that I should Gain?; Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Jesus, Lover of My Soul; and O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing, among others.

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When Charles first wrote this hymn for a Christmas Day service, he arranged the lines of the song differently, had slightly altered lyrics, and wanted the tune to consist of slow, solemn music. A few years later, in 1753, Charles' friend, George Whitfield, changed a few of the words from Wesley's original, "Hark, how the welkin (heaven) rings, Glory to the King of king" to the now famous words, "Hark, the herald angel sings, Glory to the newborn King." He further cut the last two verses which few people include currently in the song. The pattern was also turned from ten, four line verses to a eight line verses with a chorus. Charles Wesley was not pleased with another person, even a friend, altering the his hymn. But what was done, was done, and the song would probably not be as popular today without these changes.

In 1840 Felix Mendelssohn wrote a cantata in honor of the anniversary of the invention of the Gutenberg press. Several years later, organist Dr. William Cummings put these lyrics and this music together to form what we now know as "Hark the Herald Angel Sing." The first publication of the current version of the song occurred in 1856.

Whether placed at the end of movies such as Charlie Brown's Christmas or It's a Wonderful Life, or used in a church service or heard on the radio, this Christmas song is certainly a staple at this time of the year. This song reminds us that Jesus, the "newborn King," is "Prince of Peace," "Sun of Righteousness," "Everlasting Lord," "Incarnate Deity," and, best of all, "Emmanuel" — "God with us." It speaks of Jesus coming as the "second Adam" to be born that we as mere men may no longer face death! God Himself was veiled in human flesh. What wonders this song shows in its few lines!

One challenge I would offer you is to sit down with a pen and paper and rewrite this song in your own words. Do it on your own or as a family project. I guarantee that you will be awed anew at the miracle of Christ's birth and will want to shout,  
"Glory to the Newborn KING!"

*Life Giving Word (Psalm 19:7) - 7<sup>th</sup> Dec '14*  
*Liberating Plan (Isaiah 59:20) - 14<sup>th</sup> Dec '14*  
*Jesus the Light of the World (John 8:12) - 21<sup>st</sup> Dec '14*  
*The Boon of Grateful Heart (Luke 17:16) - 27<sup>th</sup> Dec '14*

## ARTICLES FOR THE MONTH

### Season of love - Our Accountability (Mrs. Merryll Stephen)

God was delighted when HE  
Created Man from dust  
God was displeased when  
Man disobeyed  
God fortified Man  
After driving him out from Eden  
God was vexed  
Floods destroyed the earth  
God was merciful  
And Man refuted him  
Not once, Not twice  
Throughout...  
Then HE gave his own SON



So that Man is not abandoned

Are we worthy?  
Of this warmth  
Of this fondness

In this season of  
Christmas,  
VOW to be worthy of HIS Love.

A premium offering to the newborn  
A matchless benefaction so much expected

**Welcome articles for Mag.,**  
[contactus@csitamilchurchpune.org](mailto:contactus@csitamilchurchpune.org)  
**1page/250words**  
**by 15<sup>th</sup> Dec '14**

## Truths and Science - 2

### God of Omnipresent and Omniscience (Mr. Lawrence)

**Introduction:** The main purpose of this article is to give more understanding about the real value of the scripture to grow in Christian faith and to exercise them in our daily life to gain blessings in full. Keep in mind, our God is all-powerful, all-knowing and present everywhere - means "Omnipresent, Omniscience". Many doubt the amazing nature of God and ridicule this wonderful truth. Through this article, I would like to correlate how the scripture works as the base of Satellite Technology and Aerospace studies.

Invention	Scientist	Period	Biblical Base
Space Station	After Sputnik 1 of Soviet Union	1957 AD	Psalm 139:8-10 "If I ascended into heaven ..."
Spacecraft	After Sputnik 1 of Soviet Union	1957 AD	Ezekiel 1:5-14 "Appearance of the flash of lightening"
Orbit	Konstantin Tsiolkovsky	1903 AD	Psalm 19:1-6 "it (planets) circuit unto the ends of it"
Atmospheric layers	After Sputnik 1 of Soviet Union	1957 AD	2 Corinthian 12:2 "An one caught up to third heaven"

**Space stations** are man-made orbital structures that are designed for human beings to live on in outer space. These are designed for medium-term living in orbit, for periods of weeks, months, or even years. After Sputnik's exploration these technologies have been developed drastically. But the bible has been talking about this adventure of ascending up to heaven - Psalm 139:8-10."

**Spacecraft:** Ezekiel 1:13-14 is talking about a living creature, and explaining well about its feature, actions, movements and how it propels upward direction as well as the desired location. If we notice the movements of space-ships especially the way it move upward and landing - how it spread the wings to do perfect landing and the functions of antenna with

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specific radius - *Ezekiel 1:22* and how the data input have been given - *Ezekiel 2:9-10; 3:2*. Prophet is talking about fire coming out while movement of the space-ships, even he explains it thundering voice during its movement - *Ezekiel 1:24*.

**Orbits in the space:** Scientists has been talking about the orbits only after 1957 AD but the bible has clearly tells about orbits as well as the movements of the planets on them *Psalm 19:1-6*.

**Atmospheric Layers:** Sputnik 1 helped to identify the density of atmospheric layers and classified by three different altitudes (height) called **Low Earth Orbit (LEO)**, **Medium Earth Orbit (MEO)** and **High Earth Orbit (HEO)**. But the bible has already been mentioned this truth in *2 Corinthians 12:2*. Apostle Paul has been talking about third heaven.

**Friends, believe;** we are having a wonderful book of "**Life Giving Manual**." It not only provides base for scientific inventions but strengthens us and upholds us in all manner *Hebrew 1:3*. *Psalm 19* gives us detailed information concerning how God controls the universe as well as our life. Depend; God in all.

**Prayer:** Father, we praise you and honor you for the wonderful scripture. Help us to understand them very well. Enable us to exercise them in our life. In Jesus Christ name we do pray. Amen...

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satellite>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orbit>

## BIBLE QUIZ FOR THE MONTH

Send the Answers to  
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And win fabulous prizes  
by 15<sup>th</sup> Dec '14

- Across**
- 1 Jesus' birthplace (9)
  - 5 Herod slew the children of this age and under (3)
  - 8 Peter quoted his words on the day of Pentecost (4)
  - 9 "A \_\_\_ shaken with the wind" (4)
  - 10 "Ye shall find \_\_\_ babe wrapped in swaddling clothes" (3)
  - 12 The year from Jesus' birth (2)
  - 14 Anna was of this tribe (as recorded in Luke) (4)
  - 15 "Behold, a \_\_\_ shall be with child" (6)
  - 20 "Fruits \_\_\_ for repentance" (4)
  - 21 The wise men came from here (4)
  - 22 "He shall reign of the house of \_\_\_ for ever" (5)
  - 23 A female ancestor of Jesus, as recorded in Matthew 1 (4)
  - 25 The amount of manna to be gathered per person (4)
  - 27 He multiplied the widow's oil (6)
  - 30 "As soon as the voice of thy salvation sounded in mine \_\_\_" (4)
  - 32 An altar meaning witness (Joshua 22) (2)
  - 33 To increase (3)
  - 35 Malarial fever (4)
  - 36 To guide (4)
  - 38 There was no room here (3)
  - 39 These men went to see the baby Jesus (9)
- Down**
- 1 "Mary, of whom was \_\_\_ Jesus" (4)
  - 2 Jesus' age when he was taken to Jerusalem (6)
  - 3 Jesus did not do this in the wilderness (3)
  - 4 Adam's wife (3)
  - 5 "Mary was espoused \_\_\_ Joseph" (2)
  - 6 "They that \_\_\_ soft clothing are in kings' houses" (4)
  - 7 Zacharias said, "I am an \_\_\_ man" (3)
  - 8 Grandson of 23 (5)
  - 11 A place near Bethel (3)

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- 13 "A pair of turtledoves \_\_\_ two young pigeons" (2)
- 16 "That \_\_\_ might be fulfilled" (2)
- 17 "The \_\_\_ of God was upon him" (5)
- 18 Mother-in-law of 23 (5)
- 19 This went before the wise men (4)
- 20 The mother of Jesus (4)
- 24 He was king at the time of Jesus' birth (5)
- 25 "\_\_\_ that one would hear me!" (2)
- 26 Jesus was laid in this (6)
- 28 The spirit did this to Jesus in the wilderness (3)
- 29 Thus (2)
- 30 The first garden (4)
- 31 "Where is he that is born king of the \_\_\_?" (4)
- 32 A priest in the time of Samuel (3)
- 33 A tree of the olive family (3)
- 34 To put into water (3)
- 37 "\_\_\_ angel of the Lord appeareth" (2)



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