

## CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1) According to the Bible, how did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?

*It does not say how they traveled however due to the fact that they were poor as seen in the offering offered after Jesus birth, it is most likely that they walked from Nazareth to Bethlehem. If they avoided the direct route through Samaria as most Jews did, they would have had to cross the Jordon river twice and cover a distance of some 90 miles. Mary riding on a donkey is never mentioned in the Scriptural account.*

- 2) What was a manger?

*It was not an enclosure for animals but rather a wood or stone feeding container for animals. Not a fitting crib for God Himself.*

- 3) According to the Bible, what kind of animals were in the stable where Jesus was born?

*The Bible does not mention what animals were present*

- 4) What was Frankincense?

*A precious perfume often used in the embalming of dead people*

- 5) True or false: The Bible says Mary had Jesus the same evening they arrived.

*False: It says in Luke 2 that while they were there she gave birth – not necessary that evening*

- 6) How many Wisemen came to see Jesus?

*The number is unknown; the number three is derived from the number of gifts given.*

- 7) Where did the Wisemen find Jesus and how old was he at the time?

*In a house, home of Mary and Joseph, and he probably was between one and two years old which is determined by the time the star appeared and the time the wisemen arrived in Jerusalem (Matt. 2:7-8, 11, 16). Remember that Herod had all children 2 years and under killed in Bethlehem.*

- 8) Were the Wisemen kings from the East?

*They were "Magi" which was a caste of scholars specializing in astrology, medicine, and natural science. It was this caste that Daniel and his three friends belonged to and it was possibly the writings of Daniel that caused the Wisemen to keep watch for a coming King.*

9) Where did the Wisemen see the Star?

*In the West, the direction of Israel from their home. Matt. 2:2 should read "we saw His star while in the East."*

10) What town was the home of Jesus when the Wisemen arrived?

*Probably Nazareth since this was Mary and Joseph's home and is where they returned after the purification of Mary (Lk. 2:39-40).*

11) True or false: The immaculate conception of Mary speaks of Mary being a virgin when she conceived Jesus.

*False: The Virgin Birth is the doctrine that Mary conceived due to the work of the Holy Spirit. The immaculate conception of Mary is a Roman Catholic doctrine adopted by the Roman Church through a Papal decree in 1854. It teaches that Mary was conceived, born, and lived in a protective sinless state so that she might be a Holy vessel for the Birth of God. However the Scriptures never mention anything about Mary prior to her conception of Jesus and she herself indicates that she was a sinner in need of a Savior (Lk. 1:47).*

12) True or false: Mary was a virgin all of her life and only bore one son, Jesus.

*False: Jesus was her "firstborn" son indicating she had more (Lk. 2:7) and she "knew" (sex) Joseph after the birth of Jesus (Matt. 1:25). The idea that Joseph practiced polygamy and had the children by another wife does not wash because polygamy was not practiced in the day of Jesus.*

13) Jesus had how many half brother and sisters and what were his brother's names?

*Four brothers and at least 2 sisters: brothers names were James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas (Mk. 6:3; Matt 13:55).*

14) Jesus was what relation to John the Baptist?

*Second cousin (Lk. 1:36).*

15) John the Baptist was how much older than Jesus was?

*6 months (Lk. 1:35).*

16) Who were the four women in the genealogy of Jesus?

*Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and the wife of Uriah (Bathsheba) (Matt. 1:3, 5, 6).*

17) Why did God include women in His genealogy?

*To fulfill the prophecy of Gen. 3:15 that the Savior would be of the "seed of a woman" and to include the importance of women in the role of salvation (1 Tim. 2:15)*

18) What is the meaning of the name Jesus, given by God for the baby?

*God is salvation (Matt. 1:21) – the Hebrew Joshua*

19) What is the meaning of the name Immanuel?

*God is with us (Matt. 1:23).*

20) Where was the prophecy found in the OT that prophesied over 800 years before Jesus birth that He would be born of a virgin and be called Immanuel?

*Isa. 7:14.*

21) In the Bible, do angels ever appear in the feminine form?

*No – all but one reference uses the Masc. pronoun or ending and they are described as men. This does not mean that angels are male for the Bible seems to indicate that they are neither male or female (Matt. 22:30)*

22) True or false: The angels sang to the Shepherds.

*False: No – they spoke and praised (Lk. 2:13-14) – no mention is ever made in the Scriptures to angels singing*

23) Were Mary and Joseph engaged or married at the time of Jesus conception?

*Engaged (Matt. 1:18).*

24) True or false: Baby Jesus had a glowing halo.

**False - Halos are never mentioned in Scripture however the Bible does speak of those who have been in the presence of God giving off a glowing light as Moses and Elijah in Matt. 17.**

- 25) True or false: Joseph considered divorcing Mary when he learned of her Pregnancy?

**True (Matt. 1:19).**

- 26) Why would Joseph need to divorce Mary if they were only engaged?

**The engagement period was more binding than it is today. (Deut. 24:1-2)**

- 27) True or false: The Scriptures record that Jesus did not cry while in the manger.

**False - nothing is mentioned about this fact and considering he was like all other babies physically, he did cry, needed to be feed and diapers changed, etc.**

- 28) Were Mary and Joseph married at the time of Jesus birth?

**Yes (Matt. 1:24-25).**

- 29) True or false: John is the only Gospel that does not contain an account of Jesus birth.

**False: Mark is the only Gospel that does not contain an account of Jesus birth. John approaches it from the divine side speaking of God coming into the world rather than a baby as in Matthew and Luke.**

- 30) True or false: Jesus was born a few minutes after midnight on December 25, 0001.

**No - probably around 3 AD though some would say as early as 5 BC. The month and date are not know, probably because God knew people would worship the day more than the Savior.**

- 31) True or false: There is no evidence that the inkeeper at Bethlehem was heartless.

**True**

- 32) True or false: Jeremiah 10:3-4 speaks out against the practice of Christmas trees.

***False: the context indicates this has to do with the making of idols – carving them out of wood and putting a thin layer of gold and silver over them***

33) True or false: Mary was the mother of God.

***False: Mary is the mother of Jesus who was God in flesh. She could not be the mother of God because she had a beginning but God has no beginning or ending but is eternally existent (Psa. 90:2)***

34) True or false: The wisemen arrived the same night as the shepherds to see Jesus.

***False: when they arrived he was a young child and living in a house (Matt. 2:11)***

35) What was God's purpose for the gifts of the wisemen?

***Probably to provide the money necessary to flee into Egypt until Herod passed away. (Matt. 2:13-23)***

36) True or false: the little drummer boy played for the new born Savior.

***False: sorry***

37) True or false: The Second Person of the Trinity gave up the full exercise of all His divine attributes in order to become a man.

***True: Paul records this in Philippians 2:5-11 and our Lord indicates that His miracles were done through the power of the Holy Spirit (Matt. 12:28)***

38) True or false: God became a man in order that he might provide a way of salvation for only the Jews.

***False: Christ came to die for the sins of the whole world (John 3:16-18)***

39) True or false: The place where Jesus stayed was a wooden enclosure.

***Maybe: the Bible does not tell us. Some believe it would have been a barn like enclosure others a stone cave.***

40) True or False: God commands all Christians to celebrate Christmas.

***False: God never commands or even mentions Christians celebrating the birth of Christ. It is a personal matter between the Christian and God as to whether he***

*chooses to honor Christ's birth or not honor it. (Rom. 14:5-6; Col. 2:16)*

- 41) True or False: Mary and Joseph offered an offering for Jesus shortly after His birth

*False: the OT law required an offering for every first born son to redeem him back from the Lord (Ex. 13:2, 12, 15). If a child was not redeemed it meant that the child was being given to the Lord for fulltime service. In the account of Luke 2:22-24, they came to present Jesus to the Lord for His service but they offered a sacrifice of doves or pigeons as a purification act for Mary (22).*