

## CHRISTMAS KNOWLEDGE TEST

### ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE:

1. Joseph was from:  
A. Bethlehem  
B. Jerusalem  
C. Nazareth  
D. Egypt  
E. Mars
2. The distance from Nazareth to Bethlehem is:  
A. 10 miles  
B. 25 miles  
C. 50 miles  
D. 70 miles  
E. 100 miles
3. How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?  
A. Camel  
B. Donkey  
C. They walked  
D. Angels carried them  
E. Who knows?
4. Mary and Joseph were married when Mary became pregnant  
True \_\_\_\_\_ False \_\_\_\_\_
5. What did the innkeeper tell Mary and Joseph?  
A. There is no room in the Inn.  
B. I have a stable you can use.  
C. Come back after the Christmas rush.  
D. Both A and B  
E. Will that be cash, Visa, or MasterCard?
6. A "manger" is a:  
A. Stable for domestic animals  
B. Baby crib  
C. Hay storage bin  
D. Feeding trough  
E. Barn
7. Which animals were present at Jesus' birth?  
A. Cows, sheep, goats  
B. llamas, buffalos, horses  
C. Chickens, ducks, ostriches  
D. Lions and tigers and bears, oh my  
E. Who knows?
8. Who saw the star in the east?  
A. Three Kings  
B. Shepherds  
C. Some men who studied the stars  
D. Photographers searching for Britney Spears  
E. None of the above
9. What is a "Heavenly Host"?  
A. The angel serving hors d'oeuvres in Heaven  
B. A choir of angels  
C. A gang of ghosts  
D. None of the above
10. How many wise men came to see Jesus?  
A. Three  
B. None  
C. A Host  
D. Who knows?
11. The wise men found Jesus in:  
A. a manger  
B. a house  
C. a stable  
D. a good mood
12. The wise men stopped in Jerusalem:  
A. to ask for directions (this is the first miracle of Christmas)  
B. to buy gifts for Jesus  
C. to ask about the baby born to be king of the Jews  
D. for gas
13. Frankincense is:  
A. a precious metal  
B. an expensive fabric  
C. a precious perfume  
D. a monster story
14. Myrrh is:  
A. a pliable metal  
B. a pungent drink  
C. a spice used when burying people  
D. an after-shave lotion
15. The wise men arrived:  
A. Twelve days after Christmas  
B. In time for dinner  
C. When Jesus was about 2½ years old  
D. Who knows?
16. Joseph took Mary and baby Jesus to Egypt:  
A. to show them the pyramids  
B. to teach Jesus the wisdom of the pharaohs  
C. because he was told to in a dream  
D. to be taxed  
E. Joseph did not take them to Egypt
17. We find the stories of Jesus' birth in:  
A. Matthew  
B. Mark  
C. Luke  
D. John  
E. Only Matthew and Luke  
F. Only Mark and John

## CHRISTMAS KNOWLEDGE ANSWERS

1. **A. Bethlehem.**  
Joseph's family was from Bethlehem. He and Mary and Jesus lived in Nazareth, but Joseph was a descendant of King David, and David's home town was Bethlehem. See Luke 2:4
2. **D. 70 miles.**  
The distance is about 70 miles (130 kilometers) as the crow flies. We don't know exactly how far it would have been using the ancient roads at the time of Jesus. A trip of this length would likely have taken at least 3 or 4 days.
3. **E. Who knows?**  
There is no mention in the Bible of exactly how Joseph and Mary travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem. See Luke 2:5.
4. **False.**  
Joseph and Mary were engaged but not married. See Luke 2:5 and Matthew 1:18.
5. **None of the above.**  
There is no mention of an inn keeper in the Bible, so we have no idea of what that person might have said. See Luke 2:7.
6. **D. Feeding trough.**
7. **E. Who knows.**  
Only Luke refers to a manger, and he doesn't say anything about any animals being present. See Luke 2:1-20.
8. **C. Some men who studied the stars**  
Matthew tells the story of "wise men from the East." See Matthew 2:1-12. Probably these men were not kings. Like astrologers today, they studied the placement and movement of the stars to gain wisdom and knowledge about the future.
9. **B. A choir of angels.**  
"Host" is a word that also means "army," but in this story they are a praise chorus. See Luke 2:13.
10. **D. Who knows.**  
Read Matthew 2:1-12 carefully and you will see that there is no mention of how many wise men came. Three gifts are given, and so it is assumed that there were three givers. Notice also that their names are not mentioned.
11. **B. A house.**  
See Matthew 2:11. In Jesus' time, poor people lived in one room houses and kept their animals in one half of that room, with a manger in the middle. It is probably the case that if there was "no room in the inn," that Mary and Joseph were able to stay in the home of distant relatives. Because they were all poor, there would not be any spare rooms and so the manger would have been used for the new baby. Read Luke 2:1-20 very carefully and you will notice that he doesn't say Jesus was in a stable or barn. He was in a manger, and the manger was probably in a house not a barn or stable.
12. **C. To ask about the baby born to be King of the Jews.**  
This simple question frightens Herod because **HE** is the King of the Jews and this new baby can only become the King if he is replaced. See Matthew 2:1
13. **C. A precious perfume.**  
A gift that only the very wealthy could afford.
14. **C. A spiced used when burying people.**  
Strong smelling spices were used when burying people in tombs to help cover the smell of the decaying body. (See John 11:39)
15. **D. Who knows.**  
Traditionally, the arrival of the wise men is celebrated 12 days after Christmas Day – hence the song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." This day, January 6, is also called "Epiphany." An epiphany is a sudden realization or insight of wisdom and truth. In this case, it is the seeing of the truth of who Jesus is. However, whereas Luke is pretty clear that the shepherds visit Jesus the night he is born, Matthew is not as clear exactly when the wise men came. The reference in Matthew 2:16-18 to the murdering of all boys aged 2 and under gives a tragic hint but no definite answer to the question.
16. **C. Because he was told to in a dream.**  
Joseph is a dreamer! (See Matthew 1:18-25 and Matthew 2:13-15)
17. **E. Only Matthew and Luke.**  
There are 4 books in the Bible that tell us about Jesus: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Like all good stories we tell about our family history, they have much in common, and also many things that are unique to each one. And they are remembered not so much to get all the facts straight as to get our faith straight. That is, they remember and tell us things about Jesus so that we will truly believe and trust in him. Hopefully this quiz has also helped you to give a careful reading of the Bible story, and to have your faith opened to the wonder and mystery of Jesus. (See Luke 2:19)