

Christmas Trivia Quiz

How well do you know the Christmas story? This quiz is designed to help you separate biblical fact from centuries of Christmas tradition. Answers and explanations are at the end. Have fun!

1. How did Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem?
 - a. Camel
 - b. Donkey
 - c. Walked
 - d. Volkswagen
 - e. Joseph walked, Mary rode a donkey
 - f. Who knows?

2. 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. None of the above

3. What is a manger?
 - a. Stable for domestic animals
 - b. Wooden hay storage bin
 - c. Feeding trough
 - d. Barn

4. According to the Bible, which animals were present at Jesus' birth
 - a. Cows, sheep, goats
 - b. Cows, donkeys, sheep
 - c. Miscellaneous barnyard animals
 - d. Lions, tigers, and bears
 - e. We don't know

5. What "sign" did the angels tell the shepherds to look for?
 - a. A star over Bethlehem
 - b. A baby that doesn't cry
 - c. A baby in a stable
 - d. A baby lying in a manger
 - e. None of the above

6. Who saw the "star in the east?"
 - a. Shepherds
 - b. Mary and Joseph
 - c. Magi (aka Wise Men)
 - d. Both A and C
 - e. None of the above

7. What did the angels sing?
 - a. Joy to the World
 - b. Alleluia
 - c. Unto us a child is born
 - d. Glory to God in the highest
8. Did the baby Jesus cry?
 - a. He never cried
 - b. He cried just like other babies
 - c. Only when the little drummer boy banged his drum
9. How many Magi came to see Jesus?
 - a. We aren't sure, but probably less than 10
 - b. Three
 - c. We don't know for sure, but there were probably dozens of people in their entourage
10. Where did the Magi find Jesus?
 - a. In the manger
 - b. In the stable
 - c. In an inn
 - d. In a house

Okay, here we go. Some answers and explanation!

1. The Bible does not say anything about a donkey. [Luke 2:4](#) simply tells us that Joseph and Mary went from Nazareth to Galilee. Many biblical scholars do think that because of their economic status they probably both walked.
2. The Bible does not record any words spoken by the innkeeper. In fact, Luke does not even mention an innkeeper, merely an inn and the fact that there was no room. [Luke 2:7](#). To get really specific, there is also no mention of a stable.
3. A manger is a feeding trough for animals.
4. Read [Luke 2:1-20](#). There is no mention of animals of any kind around Jesus after His birth.
5. The star is only mentioned in conjunction with the Magi. They told Herod they had seen the star. See [Matthew 2:2](#).
6. The sign the angels told the shepherds to look for was a baby lying in a manger. [Lk 2:12](#).
7. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests" [Lk 2:14](#).
8. Baby Jesus was fully human. He cried when He was hungry, wet, or in pain.
9. The Bible does not tell us how many Magi visited Jesus. The tradition of "3" probably developed because they presented 3 kinds of gifts. According to scholars the Magi's journey probably lasted up to two years with an entourage of dozens or more people.
10. Sorry to wreck your nativity scenes but the Magi were not present the night Jesus was born. Scriptural evidence shows Jesus could have been as old as two by the time they arrived. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were staying in a house. See [Matthew 2:11](#).