



Come Home



Have you
made room
for Jesus in
your heart?



The Political Dimension of the Census

“Luke’s original audience—people who lived in the Roman Empire in the first century—would understand the census as a visible sign of Rome’s power over the provinces. The census in Judea would raise taxes to benefit Rome and impoverish the Jews.”

Caryn Reeder, Bible Study Magazine, *“And All Went to Be Registered, Each to His Own Town”*

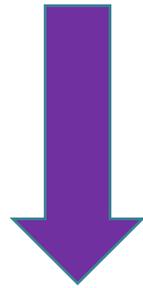




Is Luke Wrong?

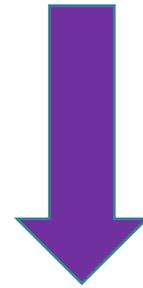
4 B.C.

King Herod
Dies



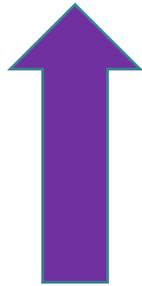
6 A.D.

Quirinius'
Census

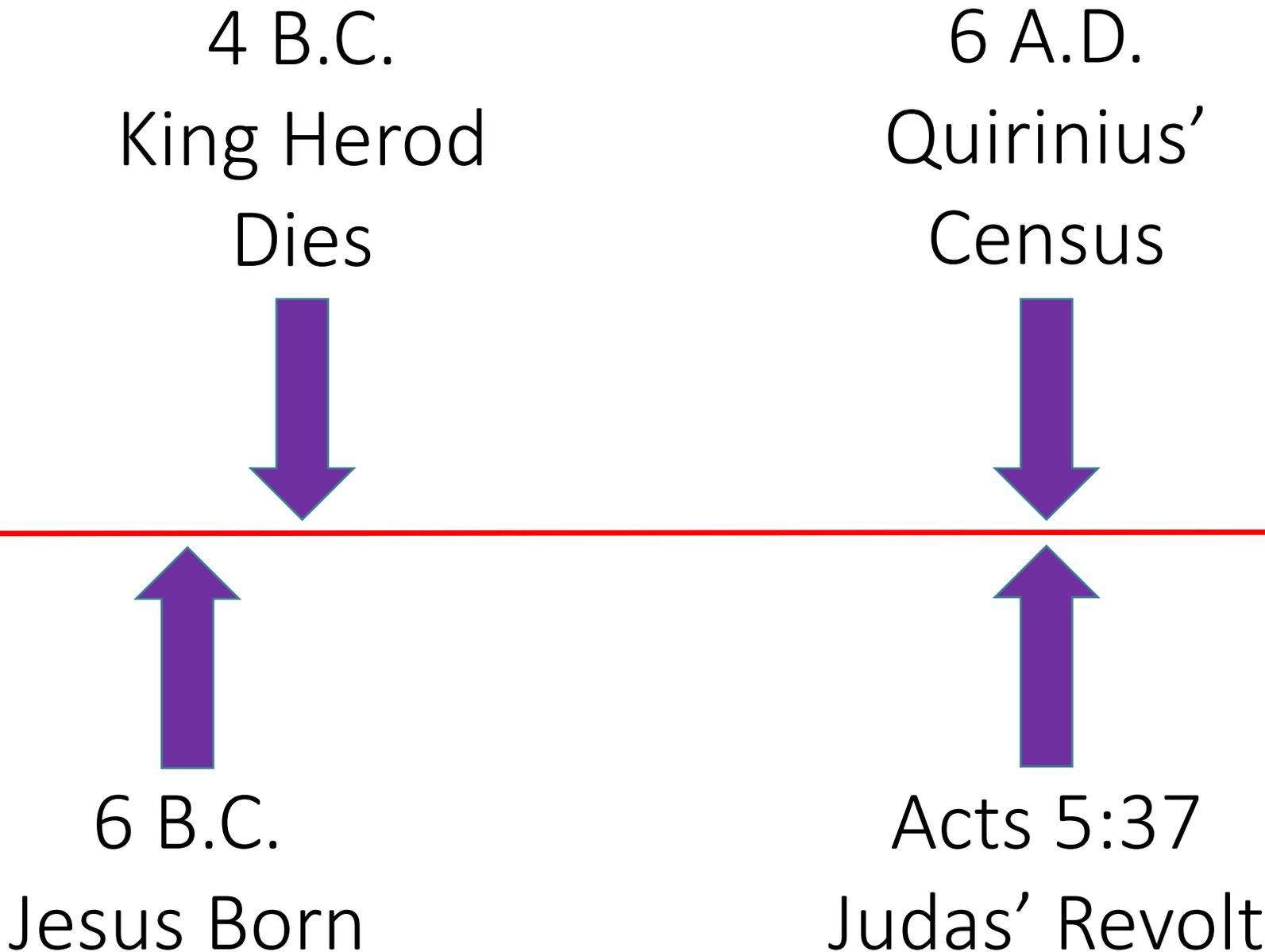


6 B.C.

Jesus Born



Is Luke Wrong?

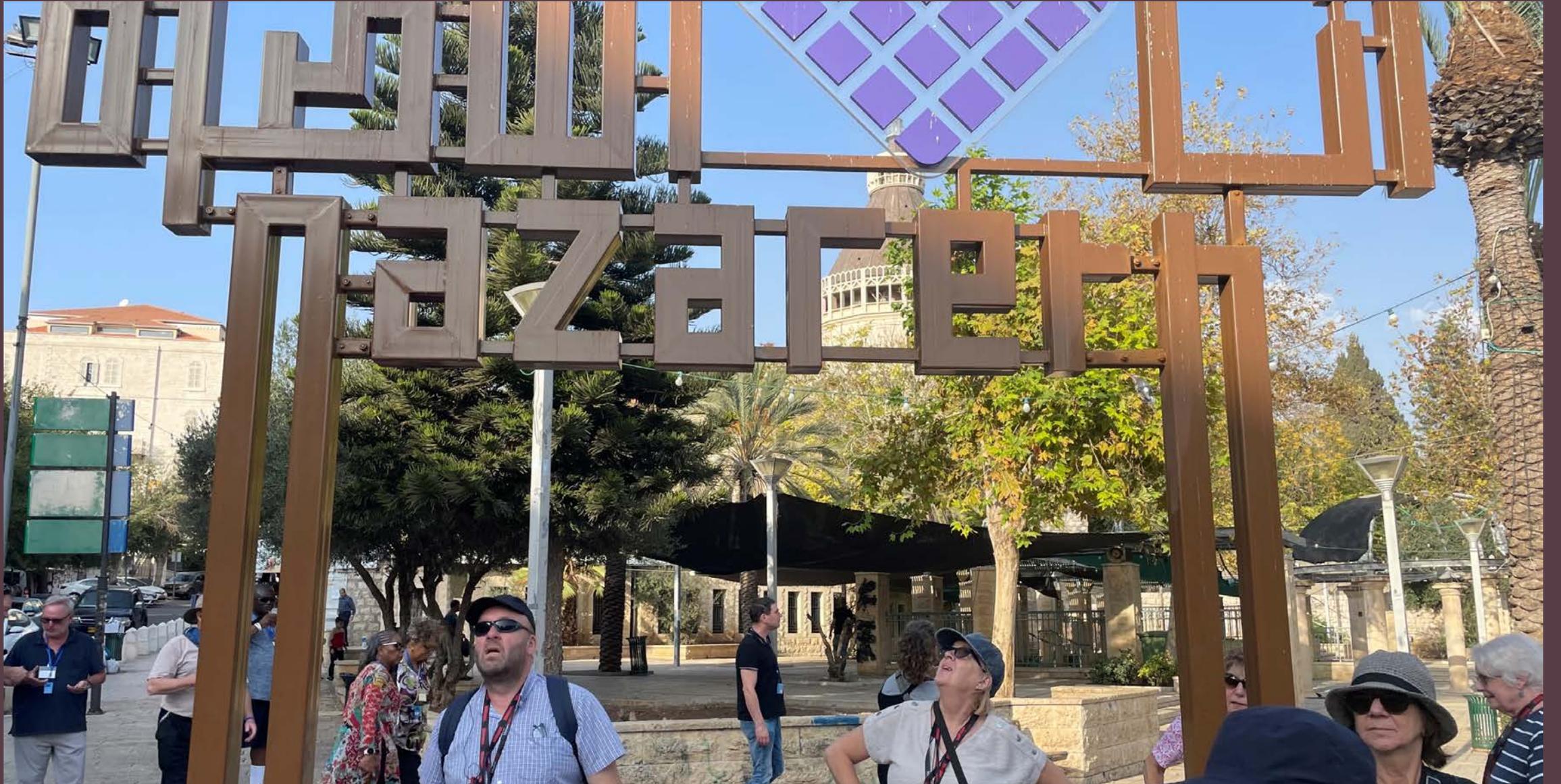


Jesus' Birth and Circumcision

-  Mary and Joseph's route from Nazareth to Bethlehem
-  Mary, Joseph, and Jesus' route from Bethlehem to Jerusalem



0 10mi
0 10km





EXCELYS DOMINI

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ECCE VIRGO
CONCIPIET
ET PARIET FILIUM

AIT DOMINVS
AD SERPENTEM
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ET TV INSIABIENS

CALCAVEO EIVS



S. MATTHAEVS S. MARCVS

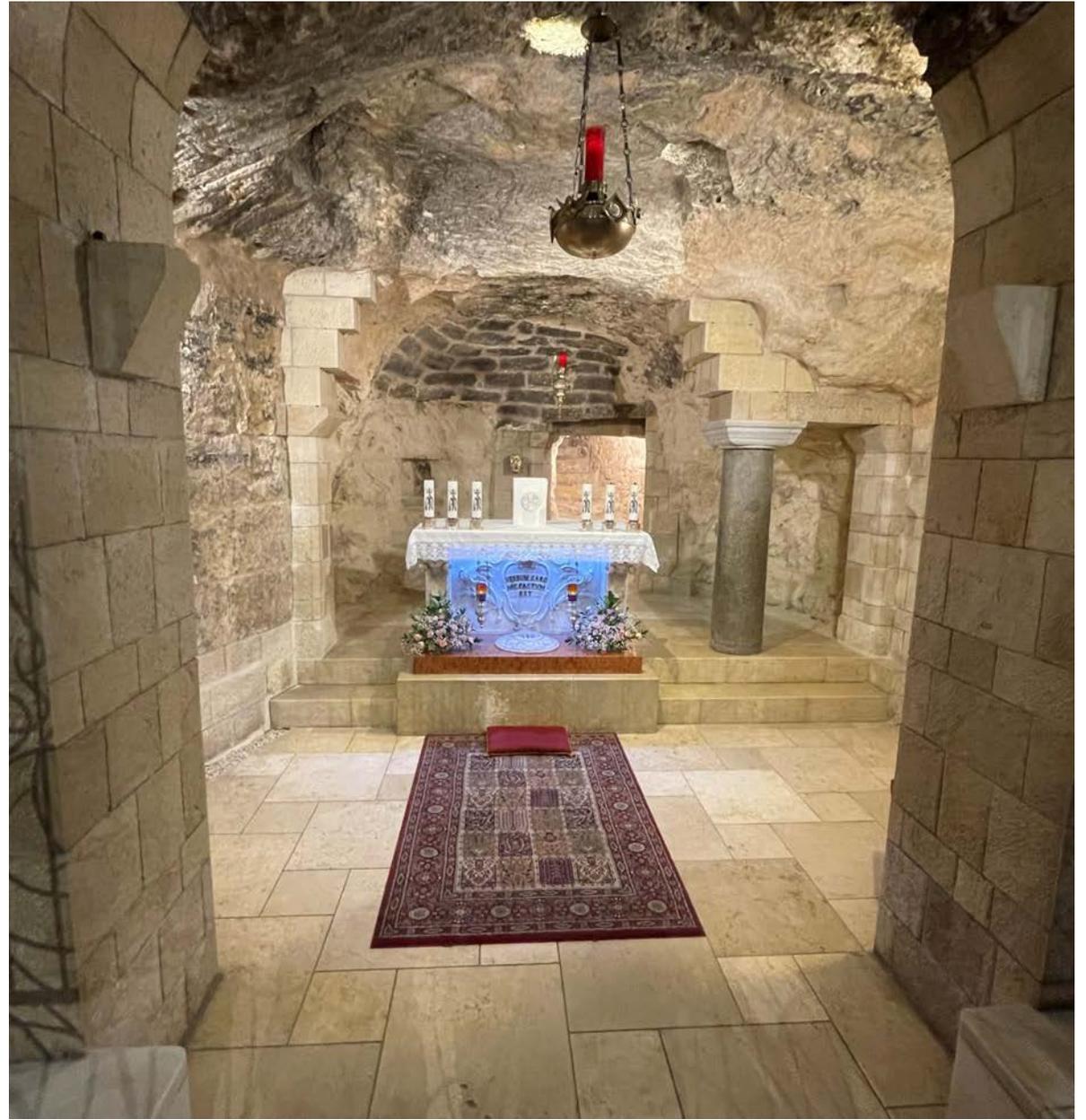


S. LVCAS S. IOANNES

ET VOCABITVR
NOMEN EIVS
EMMANVEL

VERBUM CARO FACTVM EST ET HABITAVIT IN NOBIS











Altar in the
Church of
the Nativity

Bethlehem

Betrothed But Traveling/Living Together?

“The reference to Mary as betrothed may have a motive. It does not suggest that Mary is not yet married to Joseph, since this trip in a betrothal situation would be unlikely. Rather, it means that the marriage is not yet consummated and thus implies a virgin birth.”

Darrell Bock, Baker Exegetical Commentary on the NT: Luke

Highly Unlikely Prophecy

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.”

Isaiah 7:14





Inn?

“And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”

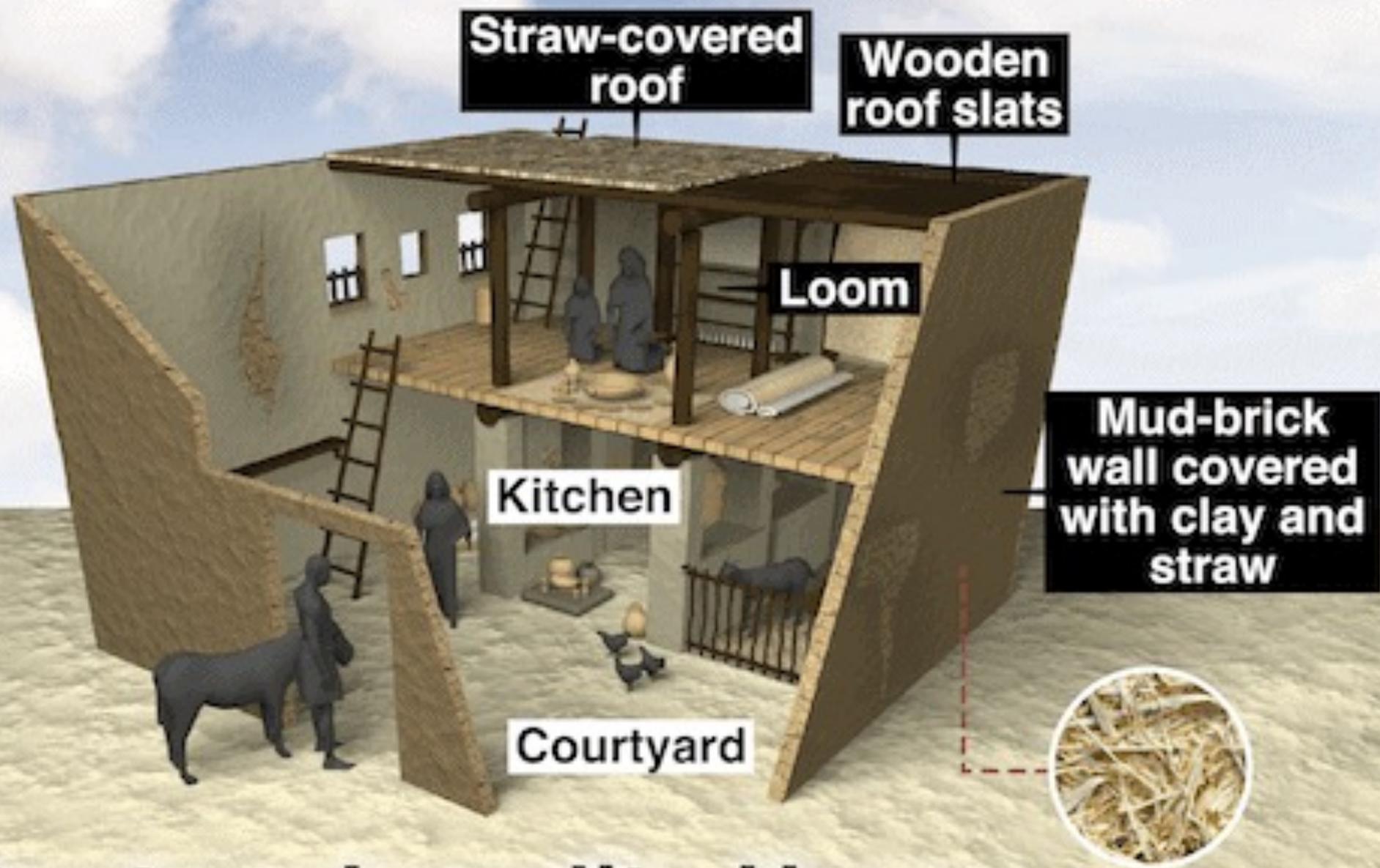
Luke 2:7 (New American Standard Bible)



What Was a “Katalyma?”

“This could have been (1) a lower-level room or stall for animals attached to the living quarters of a private residence, (2) a cave used as a shelter for animals (as some ancient traditions have claimed), or even (3) a feeding place under the open sky, perhaps in the town square.”

Mark Strauss, Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds
Commentary: Vol. 1



First-Century Israelite House

Where Was Jesus Born?

“Jesus was not born in a stable but in the main quarters of a house (which may have included a cave into its living space)...As a good middle-eastern host, the head of the house could not turn the couple away, nor would he ask his guests to find alternate lodging...Since the family livestock was kept in the room adjacent to where Jesus was born, Jesus would have been place in one of the mangers...”

Lexham Geographic Commentary of the Gospels



Typical Israeli Home



Have you
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Making Room

Contrast #1: Caesar Augustus, Roman Emperor vs. Jesus Christ, Poor Infant – make room for Jesus' kingship in your life.



A Lowly, Yet Sovereign King!

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.”

Micah 5:2







Jared Weiss @JaredWeissN... · 3d

Joe Mazzulla asked if he got to meet with the royal family: "Jesus, Mary, and Joseph? I'm only familiar with one royal family. I don't know too much about them. But hopefully, they're Celtics fans."

147 1,449 9,017



bulbul @sue_then · 2d

Replying to [@JaredWeissNBA](#)

Answered with a straight face



Making Room

Contrast #1: Caesar Augustus, Roman Emperor vs. Jesus Christ, Poor Infant – make room for Jesus' kingship in your life.

Contrast #2: Human Decrees vs. God's Decrees – make room for seeing the hand of God in your daily circumstances.



Making Room

Contrast #1: Caesar Augustus, Roman Emperor vs. Jesus Christ, Poor Infant – make room for Jesus' kingship in your life.

Contrast #2: Human Decrees vs. God's Decrees – make room for seeing the hand of God in your daily circumstances.

Contrast #3: The World Stage vs. The Private Home – make room for “Jesus” in your home/life.

Make Room in Your Home/Life for Jesus

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

Matthew 25:37-40



Come Home

Making Room

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.”

Revelation 3:20

