The Ironies of Bethlehem

INTRODUCTION

1. Luke 2:1-14
2. "The hinge of history is on the door of _____"
3. I have no problem celebrating _____. (_____, _____, _____, celebrated!)
4. Seven strange and ironical things took place in Bethlehem that night...

DISCUSSION

I. There Was No Room for Him At the Inn, Yet Ironically _____!

A. Bethlehem was _____ that night.
B. The real question is: is there any room _____?

II. No Physician Attended His Birth, Yet Ironically _____

A. Jesus healed _____
B. His "specialty" was _____
C. _____ is the disease of _____

III. His First Crib Was a Feeding Trough for Animals, Yet Ironically _____

_____

A. Animals had eaten from that _____ (It offered no permanent _____)
B. The Master of the manger can satisfy _____ (John 6:30-35 & 48-51)

IV. His First Visitors Were Shepherds, Yet Ironically He Himself Became _____

_____

A. John 10:10-15 _____
B. As a shepherd sees to all the needs of the sheep, He provides _____
_____

V. Wise Men Were Guided to Him By a Star, Yet Ironically _____

A. The "morning star" is the harbinger of _____
B. Revelation 22:16 _____

VI. He Was Presented With Glorious Gifts, Yet, Ironically He Himself _____

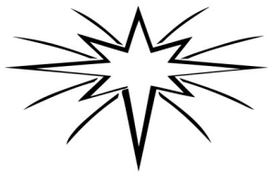
_____

A. He was given _____, _____, _____ (precious, but _____)
B. As a "gift" to us, He is _____
   1. John 3:16 _____
   2. II Corinthians 9:15 _____

VII. His Birth Was to Bring "Great Joy to All People", Yet Ironically _____

_____

A. _____ feared Him as a competitor
B. Many today still face this fear!
   1. He competes for _____
   2. He demands to be _____
   3. The promised "great joy" only comes to _____

CONCLUSION

1. We cannot know for certain whether Jesus was born in the bleak mid-winter or in sweltering summer…
2. But, we can know for certain that He **was** born, and in that we can all rejoice!