

In Bethlehem Long Ago

This 25-minute Christmas Nativity pageant tells the story of Jesus Christ from creation to present day. The birth of Christ is seen as an event with a much wider scope than an incident that occurred long ago in Bethlehem. This drama is unique in highlighting Jesus' birth as part of the greater picture of God's activity throughout history: in creation, in the words of the prophets, in the cross, in the resurrection, and in our world today. "The Word Became Flesh" provides drama that is biblically sound, educational, and thought-provoking. Shirley M. Wickland is an instructor in computer-aided design and materials science for the Trade and Technical Department of Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She is an honors graduate from Milwaukee School of Engineering with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. Her various professions have included lab technician in a hospital, instructor of Adult Education for Hawkeye Institute of Technology, and Development Engineer and Design Engineer for John Deere Company. Wickland is a certified lay speaker for the United Methodist Church, Chairperson of the Wisconsin Conference Board of Church and Society, a Certified Instructor of Disciple Bible Study, a Member of Adoptive Families of America, and a Sunday school teacher of many years.

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Recounts the story of the birth of Jesus, from the Annunciation and the journey to Bethlehem to the visits of the shepherds and the wise men.

How can we get beyond perceived barriers and find in the Old Testament the speech of God for today? What do we do with the battles, the worldview, the wonders and wrath of God? Holladay offers clear guidance for these and a host of other questions and topics in this most useful book which functions as an innovative introduction to the Old Testament and its theology.

An alphabetical introduction to Christmas traditions in the nineteenth century, such as "Christmas Carols, " "Ghost Stories and Games, " "Ornaments, " and "Toys Under the Tree."

Carlisle Sessions Floyd the minister, the father of Carlisle Sessions Floyd the composer (the subject of this biography), graduated from Wofford College.

Christmas is a time for family worship and time-honored traditions. Just as the stars lit the sky on that night in Bethlehem so long ago, you can use this study to light your way back to that time. Learn what the world was like at the time of Jesus' birth. This study unit of Christmas will help bring back into focus how the birth of a tiny baby changed the world.

Just when you thought it was safe to take a sneak peek into your stocking, it's 'Christmas: A Very Peculiar History'. Taking an unbiased view of the myth and mystery surrounding the origins of the yuletide season, this book introduces mindbending facts about the holiday season and shatters the myths surrounding some of Christmas' most treasured and well-

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known facets: When exactly was Jesus born? Why is Santa's outfit red and white? Where do we get Christmas trees from? What's the snow in a snowglobe made of? What's Boxing Day all about? 'Christmas: A Very Peculiar History' takes a sideways look at bizarre yuletide customs and stories from around the world, such as Santa's evil sidekick, the terrifying Krampus, and the Scandinavian celebration of Saint Lucy. So leave the mince pies on the mantelpiece if you've been good and block up your chimneys if you've been bad, because 'Christmas: A Very Peculiar History' is here.

A picture-book version, for young children, of the story of Jesus Christ's birth in a stable in Bethlehem.

"[Bethlehem] brings within reach 11,000 years of history, centering on the beloved town's unique place in the world. Blincoe's love of Bethlehem is compelling, even as he does not shy away from the complexities of its chronicle." -- President Jimmy Carter

Bethlehem is so suffused with history and myth that it feels like an unreal city even to those who call it home. For many, Bethlehem remains the little town at the edge of the desert described in Biblical accounts. Today, the city is hemmed in by a wall and surrounded by forty-one Israeli settlements and hostile settlers and soldiers. Nicholas Blincoe tells the town's history through the visceral experience of living there, taking readers through its stone streets and desert wadis, its monasteries, aqueducts, and orchards to show the city from every angle and era. His portrait of Bethlehem sheds light on one of the world's most intractable political problems, and he maintains that if the long thread winding back to the city's ancient past is severed, the chances of an

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end to the Palestine-Israel conflict will be lost with it.

In the tiny lakeside community of Banayim, Galilee, the villagers long for the promised Messiah to save them from poverty and Roman rule. Meanwhile their work, quarrels, and gossip go as usual. Young Dan, the motherless son of Shepherd Ammiel, is confused. Who is the Messiah? When will he come? And what does it all mean? However more immediate more worries crowd his mind. Will his father remarry? What about Aunt Etta and her lazy brother-in-law, Bukki? Suddenly Dan's narrow world expands as he meets his father's first love, the gentle Anna of Cana, her scornful Greek brother, Loukanos, and irrepressible young cousin, Johanan, and the enigmatic Blind Mordecai. When startling news comes of a bold prophet preaching in the wilderness of Judea, the family are determined to discover whether this is indeed their Messiah. They set out on a journey - a journey which will change everything. Each of them will hear more, learn more and lose more than they could ever have expected. All of them will find more than they ever could have imagined. Based on the novel by S.J. Knight, this uplifting musical stage play is a pleasure to read for its own sake. Written for a flexible number of participants of all ages, it is particularly suitable for production by youth, church, and amateur groups. The book is thoughtfully arranged with script on right-hand pages, accompanied by sketches, comments and personal note space on the left. Directors will find the optional cuts helpful. Music scores are included.

This is the eyewitness account of 15-year-old James, son of Joseph bar Jacob, and the

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dangerous and heartrending choices his family must make in the days leading to Joseph's relationship with Mary, and the birth of Jesus of Nazareth.

Gentle rhymes and distinctive watercolors set the stage for this unusual take on the birth of baby Jesus. Just pull up the panels tucked inside the pages and watch as an entire nativity scene takes shape.

*Includes pictures *Includes accounts of the Nativity and Bethlehem's holy sites

*Includes online resources and a bibliography for further reading "But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Too little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity." - The Book of Micah, Chapter 5 Bethlehem is amongst the oldest cities in the world, one that has been conquered and ruled by Caananites, Jews, Romans, Arabs, Crusaders, the Mamluks of Egypt, and the Ottomans. In the last century alone, it has been controlled by various different parties. The British took Bethlehem during World War I and controlled the city from 1920-1948, and in the wake of the 1948 war between Israel and its neighbors, Jordan annexed Bethlehem and controlled it until the Six Day War in 1967. It was during the Six Day War that Israel took control of Bethlehem, remaining in power over the city until 1995, when, in compliance with the Oslo Peace Accords, control of the city and of the surrounding West Bank was handed over to the Palestinian National Authority. The Palestinians continue to administer affairs in Bethlehem to the present day. What was it that caused this one small, unassuming

settlement to be the focus of so much attention and strife? The primary reason that Bethlehem is so famous today is the Biblical passages that relate the town as the birthplace of Jesus Christ. Moreover, the oldest continuously used Christian church in the world is the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. Like the town itself, the Church of the Nativity has gone through numerous cycles of creation and ruin. First built above the Cave of the Nativity by Emperor Constantine's mother, Helena, in May 339, the church existed for almost two centuries before it was destroyed during the Samaritan revolt in 529 CE. The church was later reconstructed by the Byzantine emperor Justinian in 565, and it is this structure that has largely survived to the present day. Today, the Church of the Nativity is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, alongside the pilgrimage route that led between Bethlehem and Jerusalem. The church and its surrounding complex of convents, monasteries, and chapels are fortress-like in appearance, reflecting the turbulent history of not only Bethlehem but the religious communities connected to the site. It was a focal point in the conflicts of the Crusades, and like many other towns in the Holy Land it fell into decline after the European armies were forced from the Holy Land. Despite being under Arab rule, Greek and Syrian Christian communities have continued to live and operate in the site, which was respected by both the Christian and Islamic faiths. It was also an important site for Judaism, being the location where many events of the Old Testament took place. Bethlehem is the burial place of Rachel, wife of Jacob, and it is where the story of Ruth

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and her mother-in-law Naomi took place. It was also known as the city of David because it was the place where King David was anointed by Samuel. Needless to say, all of its history and religious import make it one of the most important places on the planet. Bethlehem: The History and Legacy of the Birthplace of Jesus looks at the history of the city and its importance in antiquity. Along with pictures depicting important people, places, and events, you will learn about Bethlehem like never before.

Duet arrangements of Christmas favorites for late-elementary piano students. The primo parts are designed for any first-year student and are complete in themselves, while the secondo parts can be played by the teacher, parent or more advanced student.

This book is intended as a devotional guide for the Advent season. Through the mediums of meditations, poetry, and prayer, it offers a spiritual resource for readers seeking to explore the many dimensions of this beloved season, and to deepen their appreciation of its mystery and wonder. Each day the reader is provided with either a prose meditation, based in Scripture, or a selection of poems, composed around the traditional themes of Advent/Christmas. The overall effect is that of a journey--a journey which moves, devotionally, through the days and weeks of December, toward Bethlehem, the stable, and the manger. Images, incidents, impressions, and items from the daily news are woven together to form a rich and rewarding tapestry, a pathway leading onward, an open door into the quiet places of the soul. Christmas Eve and Day

are given special treatment, followed by a final section covering New Year's Day and the twelve days of Christmas. The book also provides a source of creative imagery and language for clergy, and other worship leaders, as they face the challenges of speaking traditional truths in a new and inviting way. Yet another use would be as a small group study guide for Advent.

A Christmas in Princeton A Christmas in Princeton, is about holly, carols, and joy, but it also celebrates the very reasons for Christmas and its colorful traditions. It is a touching tale of friendship and inspiration, and the mysterious way in which giving can transform the giver. It is a breezy, little tale about the meaning and history of Christmas, and it is full of unexpected thoughtfulness and wisdom for young and old. Tom Cooper is a young lad obsessed with getting whatever he wants. Not only is he self-centered in all his pursuits but he never reflects on the magic inherent in the world around him. That is, until one very special holiday season when a twist of fate brings him to the door of a rickety old shack. It serves as the home of a reclusive old gent who lives the most spartan existence. A friendship develops, and one that brings about a deep and lasting change in Tom. But Tom never fully understands what has happened to him until many years pass and the shack and its habitant are long gone. Though this story was inspired by an old gentleman whose church provided him with a humble dwelling for his remaining years, the names of individuals and places have been changed, and unconnected events have been intertwined to weave the story.

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Rhymes and watercolors of the birth of baby Jesus. Pull up panels tucked inside pages.

Jesus Christ is arguably the most famous man who ever lived. His image adorns countless churches, icons, and paintings. He is the subject of millions of statues, sculptures, devotional objects and works of art. Everyone can conjure an image of Jesus: usually as a handsome, white man with flowing locks and pristine linen robes. But what did Jesus really look like? Is our popular image of Jesus overly westernized and untrue to historical reality? This question continues to fascinate. Leading Christian Origins scholar Joan E. Taylor surveys the historical evidence, and the prevalent image of Jesus in art and culture, to suggest an entirely different vision of this most famous of men. He may even have had short hair. Delightfully illustrated by Fred Apps, this is the magical retelling of the birth of Jesus over two thousand years ago.

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