

# Wiebes' Wavelength

Child Evangelism Fellowship® Atlantic Canada

December 2021



*Joy and Peace to  
you this Christmas*

Dear Friends and Family: Christmas 2021

We say Merry Christmas a lot this time of year. Our plans are usually to enjoy feasts and family and gifts. With all the lights decorating the houses and landscapes, we think of the star that guided the wise men and the light from the angelic chorus. We remember God's message of "Peace on earth" and wish it were a reality. Mostly we want joy and peace. But that's not what's been driving my thoughts these days.

Probably many things have contributed to my thinking of the traveling aspect of Christmas; the rootlessness of not being at home, part of Christmas; the not being with family part of Christmas; the lack of ceremony or

celebration part of Christmas; this Christmas. It's not the fact that we're not going to be with our greater family for Christmas, which is what we usually do. It's not the fact that I haven't seen the American side of my family for several years, either.

I just remember reading someone's idea that Mary and Joseph were virtually homeless when they ended up in the stable after traveling in her condition for over a week. I was listening to a preacher talk about how many months it might have taken the wise men to travel to Bethlehem and of course, the shepherds were spending the night outside in the cold, with possibly only rudimentary shelter. This contributed to my musing about this non-

glamorous, little talked about aspect of the Christmas story.

However, what really brought this to the forefront of my thinking was the fact that after over 40 years of living in Canada, I had done the paperwork for Canadian citizenship and over a year later I was finally contacted to do my oath of citizenship in November. I just received my actual certificate of Canadian citizenship in the mail this last week. Probably to the consternation of some political person, I am now a citizen of 3 countries and can legally carry 3 passports..... No, I have no intentions of becoming a spy!

In all of this paperwork I have been thinking that with all the traveling I have done in my over 60 years of life, where exactly is my home? That question is what really sparked my reflection on the traveling, away from home, part of Christmas.

The shepherds traveled the shortest distance to see Jesus. They were in the hill country around the town of Bethlehem. Mary and Joseph traveled 80+ miles (130km+) depending on their route. Estimates range from 4-10 days, depending on their speed. The wise men traveled 700+ miles (1150km) if they came from Babylon. That normally took over 4 months. The angels came from heaven (no estimates of distance!) and probably at the speed of light or whatever speed at which angels normally cruise. But Jesus came the furthest—not just from heaven, but from being God and Creator, to becoming a baby and human. From being omnipotent to totally helpless. Wow!

He, the God of the Universe, became a citizen of earth! One wonders, did He feel at home here? He came here, to make sure that mankind would be able to find a home in heaven. He died and rose for our sins, so we could look forward to the “city which has foundations, whose builder and

maker is God. They desire a better country, that is, an heavenly; Where God is not ashamed to be called their God; for he has prepared for them a city”. Hebrews 11: 10,16 And all of us rest on the promise that Jesus made to His disciples: “In My Father’s house are many mansions; ...I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there you may be also”. John 14:2-3

We know that we need to believe in our heart in order to be saved, (Rom 10:9-10) and then Jesus told us in John 14:16 and 23, that all 3 members of the Trinity would come into our heart and make Their abode in us! Paul calls this the great mystery of God: “Christ in you, the hope of glory”. (Colossians 1:27) Revelation 3:20 paints a good word picture for us. The God of the Universe wants to live in me! He wants to be at home in my life! Wow!

Stuart Hamblen wrote about this in one of his songs: How big is God? (just chorus included)

**How big is God?  
How big and wide His vast domain  
To try and tell, these lips can only start  
He's big enough to rule His mighty universe  
Yet small enough to live within my heart**

So, I’m left to ponder this Christmas season....Jesus wants me to feel at home in heaven some day, but does He feel at home in my life, today? Maybe if I were totally living the way He would have His children to live, there would be a lot more joy and peace and light in this world.

Working at making our lives a true home for our Saviour,

Ron and Eunice Wiebe

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