



AN  
OPPORTUNITY  
YOU DON'T WANT  
TO MISS

S E R M O N   G U I D E

**An Opportunity You Don't Want To Miss**

*Luke 2:15-16*

**INTRODUCTION**

**NOTES**

When we survey the birth narratives of Jesus found in Luke and Matthew, one of the sad realities is that there were seemingly so many people who were present, who were right there during the birth of Jesus and missed out on the moment and the meaning... they were oblivious to the significance and the value of Jesus. They missed Jesus altogether. And the tragedy is that even today, at a time when we have the benefit of knowing about the person, the purpose, and the plan of Christ, people all around us are still missing Jesus. But I don't want that to happen to you or me. So in this message, we're going to learn from the mistakes of the people who missed Jesus and learn how to emulate the people who didn't miss Jesus.

**KEY POINTS**

**1. Who Missed Jesus?**

King Herod was one of the people who missed Jesus, and he did so because he believed other things were more important than the Messiah. In other words, he put Jesus on the backburner. And the truth is, many of us can often find ourselves in the same shoes. We know Jesus, but we put him on the back burner. Faith in God just isn't a priority right now. It's not that we don't plan to get around to it. It's just that there are other things that are more important to us now. But if we don't want to make the same mistake King Herod did, we have to take Jesus off the back burner and make Him the top priority in our lives.

**2. Who Didn't Miss Jesus?**

While many missed Jesus, others did not. They were people who, with everything they had going on, wanted their lives turned around; they were at a point where they wanted a change and were looking to God to turn things around. So when they were given an opportunity to get closer to Jesus, they took it.

There were those like Simeon and Anna, poor but saintly people who like many others "were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem" (Luke 2:38). In general, they were despised and symbolized those who were considered outcasts in society.

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And yet, when the angels appeared to them in Luke 2 while they were keeping watch over their flock, they sensed the glory of the Lord move and immediately said to themselves, “Let’s go to Bethlehem now to see what God is doing.”

Oftentimes we think of Bible characters as these famous highly appointed people. But here are regular people who were obedient when they felt the conviction of God. And when it was time to respond, they did. When they sensed God's glory moving, they went to see it! God is waiting for you to do the same.

## NOTES

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**QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

1. When was a time when, looking back, Jesus was trying to get your attention but you missed Him? What can you learn from that experience?
2. If you're being honest, do you have Jesus on the backburner right now? Or is He your top priority?
3. How do your priorities need to shift in order to make sure Jesus is at the top of your list?

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