

December 16th

## THOU DIDST LEAVE THY THRONE (THERE IS ROOM IN MY HEART FOR THEE)

Each year as we enter the Christmas Season, familiar carols ring forth over the media and at our church services. I've particularly been blessed joining carolers as we visit shut-ins or neighbors with the joyful sounds of Christmas. However, this hymn, perhaps not as familiar to some, is rich in theological import.

Describing the reality of the Lord Jesus, pursuing us in accordance with God's eternal plan and doing so in such a unique way – a manger in Bethlehem! The angels heralded it, yet the lowly shepherds responded as our representatives. Today, we rush about pursuing our own interests with agendas packed so full there is little time or room for Him. His journey to Calvary provided the absolute best gift to broken hearts, but in today's rush we seldom take time to reflect on how really broken our lives are. The same tendencies that nailed Him to the cross can and do keep us bound rather than set free!

The last stanza is a renewed call to us to accept His provision for, "There is room at My side for thee."

John 1:10-12, The Living Bible, says: "But although he made the world, the world didn't recognize him when he came. Even in his own land and among his own people, the Jews, he was not accepted. Only a few would welcome and receive him. But to all who received him, he gave the right to become children of God. All they needed to do was to trust him to save them."





Can we take time this Christmas to re-set our lives with the central focus on Him? Not just making room for Him, but, instead, pursuing Him and accepting more fully His provision of freedom? Can we sing that great chorus, “O Come to my heart, Lord Jesus – There is room in my heart for Thee!”

Contributed by Dick Reynolds

