

What Christmas Means To Me



² And it came to pass in those days *that* a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³ So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

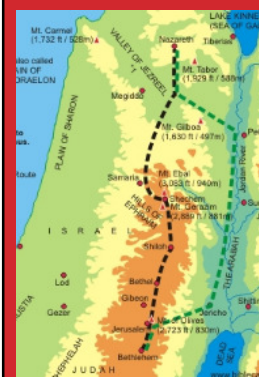
Luke 2:1-3

Mary & Joseph on the Road



⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. Luke 2:4-5

Nazareth to Bethlehem



- 70 to 90 miles
- 7 to 10 days walking
 - Western route (black dashes) shorter, but passes through Samaria
 - Eastern route (green dashes) longer, but avoids Samaria and doesn't get steep until going from Jericho to Jerusalem

Three Wise Men With Herod



² Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." - Mark 2:1-2

Following the Star to Bethlehem



⁹ When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy: - Mark 2:9-10

First Christmas Presents



¹¹ And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - **Mark 2:11**

Boomer Boy Christmas Presents Cultural Influences

Westerns

The earliest TV Westerns were written primarily for a children's audience; it was not until the near-concurrent debuts of *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp* and the TV version of *Gunsmoke* in 1955 that adult Westerns appeared on television, and the genre became enormously popular.

Military

- WWII movies abounded
- Korean War and WWII surplus equipment was readily available
- Military related toys were under many boomer Christmas trees

Notable TV Westerns

The Lone Ranger, 1949-1957
Death Valley Days, 1952-1970
Gunsmoke, 1955-1975
Cheyenne, 1955-1962
Have Gun – Will Travel, 1957-1963
Wagon Train, 1957-1965
Maverick with, 1957-1962
Yancey Derringer, 1958-1962
Wanted Dead or Alive, 1958-1962
Bat Masterson, 1958-1961
The Rifleman, 1958-1963
Rawhide, 1959-1965
Bonanza, 1959-1973

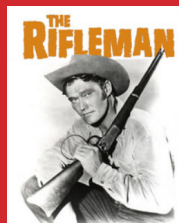
Lone Ranger Christmas



Yancey Derringer Christmas



Rifleman Christmas



Boomer Boy Military Influences

– Movies

- Sgt. York
- Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo
- Sands of Iwo Jima
- From Here to Eternity
- To Hell and Back
- Run Silent, Run Deep

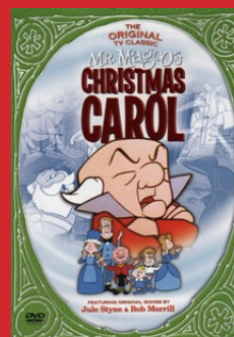
Military Toys



Animated Christmas TV Specials

- Mr. Magoo's Christmas Carole, 1962
- Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer, 1964
- A Charlie Brown Christmas, 1965
- How the Grinch Stole Christmas, 1966
- Frosty the Snowman, 1969

Mr. Magoo Christmas Carole



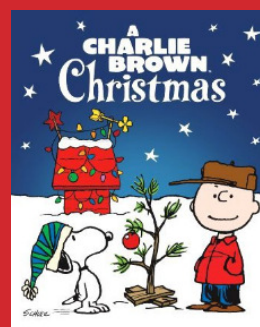
- 1962
- This musical adaptation of the classic tale by Charles Dickens stars Magoo as the cold-hearted old miser, Ebenezer Scrooge.
- Based on the 1843 novella by Charles Dickens

Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer



- 1964
- Began life as a poem by Robert L. May in the 1930s
- Gained more popularity in the 1940s thanks to a song based on the poem by Johnny Mark

A Charlie Brown Christmas



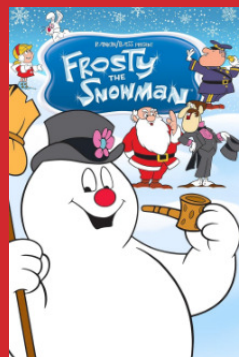
- 1965
- A Charlie Brown Christmas is a 1965 American animated television special. It is the first TV special based on the comic strip Peanuts, by Charles M. Schulz.
- Linus recites the King James Version of Luke 2:8-14

How the Grinch Stole Christmas



- 1966
- Based on Dr. Seuss's book, featuring the Grinch, a creature who despises Christmas and attempts to ruin it for the Whos in Whoville.

Frosty the Snowman



- 1969
- Based on the 1950 Gene Autry song.
- The producers wanted to give the show and its characters the look of a Christmas card, so Paul Coker Jr., a greeting card and *Mad* magazine artist, was hired to do the character and background drawings.

Christmas Carols

- **Secular**
 - O Tannenbaum, **1500s**
 - The Twelve Days of Christmas, **1714**
 - God Rest (keep) Ye Merry Gentlemen, **1700s**
 - Jingle Bells, **1857** – (Originally a sleigh racing song.)
 - Up on the Roof Top, **1864**. (It is widely considered to be the first to focus exclusively on Santa Claus.)
 - We Wish You a Merry Christmas, **1935**
 - The Little Drummer Boy, **1941**
 - Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer, **1979**

Christmas Carols

- **Scripture Inspired**
 - Joy to the World, **1719**
 - Hark the Herald Angels Sing, **1739**
 - God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, **1760**
 - The First Noel, **early 1800s**
 - Silent Night, **1818**
 - We Three Kings, **1857**

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord
is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare
Him room,

And heaven and nature
sing,
And heaven and nature
sing,
And heaven, and heaven,
and nature sing.

⁴ Shout for joy to the LORD,
all the earth,
burst into jubilant song
with music;
⁵ make music to
the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the
sound of singing,
⁶ with trumpets and the
blast of the ram's horn—
shout for joy before
the LORD, the King.

Psalms 98:4-6

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new born King,
peace on earth, and mercy
mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th' angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

¹¹ Today in the town of David
a Savior has been born to
you; he is the Messiah, the
Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to
you: You will find a baby
wrapped in cloths and lying
in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company
of the heavenly host
appeared with the angel,
praising God and saying,
¹⁴ "Glory to God in the
highest heaven, and on earth
peace to those on whom his
favor rests."

Luke 2:11-14

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God rest ye merry,
gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay
Remember, Christ, our
Savior
Was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's
power
When we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy
O tidings of comfort and joy

*"Peace I leave with you; my
peace I give you. I do not give
to you as the world gives. Do
not let your hearts be troubled
and do not be afraid."*

John 14:27

11 For there is born to you this
day in the city of David a
Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:11

*"If you declare with your
mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and
believe in your heart that God
raised him from the dead, you
will be saved."* **Romans 10:9**

The First Noel

The first Noel the angels
did say
Was to certain poor
shepherds
In fields as they lay,
In fields where they,
Laying their sheep
On a cold winter's night
That was so deep.
Noel Noel Noel Noel!
Born is the King of Israel!

8 And there were shepherds
living out in the fields nearby,
keeping watch over their
flocks at night. **9** An angel of
the Lord appeared to them,
and the glory of the Lord
shone around them, and they
were terrified. **10** But the angel
said to them, "Do not be
afraid. I bring you good news
that will cause great joy for all
the people. **11** Today in the
town of David a Savior has
been born to you; he is the
Messiah, the Lord.

Luke 2:8-11

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, All is bright
Round yon Virgin,
Mother and Child
Holy Infant so Tender and
mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

15 When the angels had left
them and gone into heaven,
the shepherds said to one
another, "Let's go to
Bethlehem and see this thing
that has happened, which
the Lord has told us about."

16 So they hurried off and
found Mary and Joseph, and
the baby, who was lying in
the manger.

Luke 2:15-16

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and
mountain
Following yonder star

O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still
proceeding
Guide us to thy Perfect Light

2 Now after Jesus was
born in Bethlehem of
Judea in the days of
Herod the king,
behold, wise men from
the East came to
Jerusalem, **2** saying,
"Where is He who has
been born King of the
Jews? For we have
seen His star in the East
and have come to
worship Him."

Matthew 2:1-2

An Evolving Understanding of Christmas

- Cultural Influences
 - Television/Movies
 - Music
 - Secular
 - Scripture Based
- Faith Influences
 - Accepting Christ as my Savior
 - Guided by the Holy Spirit

The Perfect Christmas Gift

