

# CASTING THE PAGEANT

A Yale Bible Study with Dr. Allen R. Hilton

## Study Plan

This plan will guide our progress through the characters in the Christmas story. The readings will help you prepare for the lecture and discussion. Each reading (other than Bible) is given here in a hot link, so you need not search: simply click and read.

Date	Session	Cast Members in Focus	Prep Reading
30NOV23	The Big Bit Parts	The Innkeeper, Augustus, and Quirinius	Matthew 1:16-21; 2:1-11; Luke 1:26-38; <a href="#">“Innkeeping in Jewish Society in Roman Palestine” Tacitus, Annals 3.48</a> Dr. Robert Cargill on <a href="#">Luke’s Census and Dates</a>
07DEC23	Something about Mary	Mary and the Angels	Luke 1:16—2.52; Matthew 1:16; Galatians 4:4-5 John 2:1-10; Matthew 12:46-47; Mark 3:31; Luke 8:19; John 19:27; Isaiah 6 <a href="#">“The Historical Mary”</a> (R. Maloney, <i>America</i> , Oct 2005)
14DEC23	Joseph’s Choice	Joseph and the Shepherds	Matthew 1:1—2:12; 13:55; Luke 2:4; 3:23; 4:22; John 1:45; 6:42; Genesis 37 Shirley Jackson Case, <a href="#">“Jesus and Sepphoris”</a> <i>JBL</i> (1926)
21DEC23	Gifts from Afar	Herod and the Magi	Matthew 2:1-12; 28:16-20 Josephus <a href="#">Antiquities 10.195, 216</a> Philo of Alexandria, <a href="#">Special Laws 3.93-94</a> Erik Van Den Eykel, <a href="#">“We Three Kings”</a> in <i>Chr Today</i> T.S. Eliot, <a href="#">“The Journey of the Magi”</a>