

Art & Belief

Seek, and Ye Shall Find!

Bible Project illustrator Everett Patterson created this illustration of José y Maria by challenging himself to place as many Biblical references into the scene as possible. For Advent fun, treat it like a Highlights hidden picture game—but instead of finding objects, look for Bible references!

(Answers at bottom of the page).

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Answer Key : (1) Circular/starburst-shaped signs behind Jose's and Maria's heads = halos. (2) I Samuel 16:1: Samuel finds David in Bethlehem = Dave's City Motel sign. (3) Isaiah 9:7: "He will reign on David's throne..." = king's crown (4) Isaiah 11:1: "shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse" = sprout near Jose's feet. (5) Matthew 2:1: "there came wise men from the East..." (KJV) = Weisman's Cigarettes poster. (6) Matthew 2:2: "...We saw his star..." = Star Beer sign. (7) Luke 1:26: "...God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth..." = Nazareth High School sweatshirt. (8) Luke 1:28: "Ave Maria" (Latin) = Maria's head blocking letters on a sign. (9) Luke 1:35: Holy trinity = Three matches in matchbook. (10) Luke 2:7: "...No guest room available..." = No vacancy sign at the motel. (11) Luke 2:7: "...laid Him in a manger..." = Sign missing letter "a" in New Manager. (12) Luke 2:8: "shepherds... keeping watch" = Newspaper ads for shepherd watches. (13) Luke 2:10: "I bring you glad tidings of great joy" (1599 Geneva translation repeated in hymns) = Newspaper ads for Glad and Tide. (14) Luke 2:10: "I bring you good news..." = Candy bar poster proclaims, "Good News." (15) Luke 2:14: "Gloria Deco" (Latin) = Gloria bumper sticker wrapped around the telephone box. (16) Luke 2:24: "offer a sacrifice... a pair of doves or two young pigeons" = Sticker on the window with a white dove. (17) Apocrypha (Protoevangelium of James): Maria sits atop a donkey = Maria on broken horse ride (18) Campaign sign reading "Elect Herod Antipas" so Herod is king, but his son Antipas is running for office. (19) Ezekial 37:16: Zeke 37:16 graffiti on telephone = prophesy about uniting Israel and Judah under one king (Jesus). (20) Luke 7:7: "being great with child" = Mary has