

Series: Story of the New Testament
Lesson: The Birth of the Messiah in Matthew and Luke
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**List of Discrepancies
In the Renaissance Painting's Portrayal
Of the Birth of Christ**

Scriptural

1. Three wise men (one young and two elderly in the foreground wearing red robes)
2. Wise men worship a baby Jesus near a stable, not in a house
3. The presence of soldiers
4. Daytime rather than night
5. Angels present at the scene of Jesus' birth (upper left hand corner)

Religious

1. Mary and Jesus have halos

Social

1. Servant of the wise men is African
2. All of the people are white Italians, and not Jews or darker skinned travelers from the east
3. All of those present are dressed as people of the upper class, even the shepherds (in the background on the right)

Architectural

1. Stable is 15th century Italian
2. City in background as also 15th century Italian including spires of churches
3. Stone in foreground engraved 1487

Geographical

1. Mountainous region
2. Large lake (or probably Mediterranean Sea)