

CHRISTMAS: A KING TO FOLLOW

Christmas On Purpose – Advent 3

December 16, 2007

Matthew 8:27 (NIV) “The men were amazed and asked, ‘**What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey Him!**’ ”

Matthew 2:11a (NIV) “On coming to the **house**, they saw the **child** with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him.”

Matthew 2:16 (NIV) “When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were **two years old and under**, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.”

LIFE CHANGING ACTIONS OF THE WISE MEN...

I. THEY CAME _____ JESUS.

Matthew 2:1-2a (NIV) “After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, ‘**Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east...**’ ”

Daniel 9:25 (NIV) “Know and understand this: **From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven ‘sevens,’ and sixty-two ‘sevens.’** ”

Matthew 2:3-4 (NIV) “When King Herod heard this **he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.** ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them **where the Christ was to be born.**”

Matthew 2:5 (NIV) “ ‘**In Bethlehem in Judea,**’ they replied, ‘for this is what the prophet has written.’ ”

II. THEY CAME _____ JESUS.

Matthew 2:2b (NIV) “We saw His star in the east and **have come to worship Him.**’ ”

Matthew 2:9-10 (NIV) “After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ **When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.**”

Matthew 2:11 (NIV) *“On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.”*

“You can give without loving, but you can’t love without giving.”

OUT OF THEIR WORSHIP CAME...

1. Gifts that were _____

- **Gold pointed to His _____ ... for He is King**
...Give Him your first and your best.

Proverbs 3:9 (GW) *“Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first and best part of all your income.”*

- **Incense pointed to his _____ ... for He is God**
...Give Him your joyous worship

Exodus 30:37 (NIV) *“Do not make any incense with this formula for yourselves; consider it holy to the LORD.”*

- **Myrrh pointed to His _____ ... for He was destined to suffer and die**
...Give Him your life and loyalty

Romans 12:1a (NCV) *“So brothers and sisters, since God has shown us great mercy, I beg you to offer your lives as a living sacrifice to Him.”*

2. Gifts that were _____

Matthew 2:12 (NIV) *“And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.”*

Matthew 2:13 (NIV) *“When they (the Magi) had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. ‘Get up,’ he said, ‘take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill Him.’”*

Where God _____ God _____!