

Sunday - December 27, 2020

# The Gifts of Christmas

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Today's Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

<sup>1</sup> Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, [a]wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> 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."

<sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

<sup>5</sup> So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
Are not the least among the rulers of Judah;  
For out of you shall come a Ruler  
Who will shepherd My people Israel.' "

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod, when he had secretly called the [b]wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

<sup>9</sup> 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. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. <sup>11</sup> 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.

<sup>12</sup> Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

## **WITH GOLD, THEY HONORED HIM AS KING**

- By offering the gift of gold, the Wise Men proved that they could see with the eyes of their heart
- They saw in Christ the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophesy some 700 years before
- *"For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government will be upon His shoulders...of the increase of His government and peace, there will be no end."* Isaiah 9:6
- He is the King

## **WITH FRANKINCENSE, THEY WORSHIPPED HIM AS LORD**

- By bringing a gift of Frankincense, the Magi were offering the gift of worship
- *Jesus was the fulfillment of Isaiah's promise, "And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."* Isaiah 9:6
- Come to the manger with the eyes of faith and worship Him

## **WITH MYRRH, THEY TRUSTED HIM AS SAVIOR**

- Myrrh was an incredibly inappropriate gift
- He did not come to be the baby in a manger
- He came to be the Savior of the world
- *"He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes, we are healed."* Isaiah 53:5-6