

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: “‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

Matthew 2:1-12 (ESV)

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Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Matthew 2:1-12 (ESV)

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THE WISDOM OF CHRISTMAS

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What made the Wise Men wise?

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PURSUE JESUS

They had everything, but still needed something

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The Christmas Season has a way of uncovering the Hurts, Holes and Hang-ups in our lives.

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“There is a God shaped vacuum in the heart of every man which cannot be filled by any created thing, but only by God the Creator made known through Jesus.”

-Blaise Pascal, 17th Century Philosopher

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“Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,” declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 29:12-14a

Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.
James 4:8

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WORSHIP JESUS

They recognized Jesus as God and **BOWED DOWN**

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EVERYBODY WORSHIPS SOMETHING

Herod worshiped himself

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EVERYBODY WORSHIPS SOMETHING

The Jews worshiped their knowledge and heritage

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EVERYBODY WORSHIPS SOMETHING

“These priests knew the Scriptures and pointed others to the Saviour, but they would not go to worship Him themselves! They quoted Micah 5:2 but did not obey it. They were five miles from the very son of God, yet they did not go to see Him!”

-Warren Wiersbe

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EVERYBODY WORSHIPS SOMETHING

The Wise Men worshiped Christ

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We are all created to worship—whatever receives the most **ATTENTION**, **AFFECTION**, and **ADORATION** is usually the object of our worship.

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GIVE TO JESUS

Gold: Gave to him as a King **(A KINGLY GIFT)**

Frankincense: Gave to him as High Priest
(A PRIESTLY GIFT)

Myrrh: Gave to him as Lamb **(A BURIAL GIFT)**

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.
Matthew 20:28 (NIV)

The Wise Men gave their best, Jesus gave his best, we should give our best.

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