

THE WISE MEN IN THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Tri-City Baptist Church

December 25, 2011

Matthew 2:1-11

I. THE IDENTITY OF THE WISE MEN

- (2:1) Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

II. THE INQUIRY OF THE WISE MEN

- (2:2) Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

III. THE IRRITATION CREATED BY THE WISE MEN

- (2:3) When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

A. The Interrogation of the “Spiritual” Leaders of Israel

- (2:4) And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.
- (2:5) And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,
- (2:6) And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

B. The Interrogation of the Wise Men

- (2:7) Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

IV. THE INVESTIGATION OF THE WISE MEN

- (2:8) And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

V. THE ILLUMINATION FOR THE WISE MEN

- (2:9) When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

VI. THE INSTANTANEOUS JOY OF THE WISE MEN

- (2:10) When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

VII. THE INSPIRING RESPONSE OF THE WISE MEN

- (2:11) And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

What Wise People do on Christmas

1. They recognize something is missing in their lives.
2. They seek a relationship with God.
3. They ask the right questions.
4. They want to worship the right Person.
5. They believe the promises of the Word of God.
6. They see the circumstantial signs in life that lead to God.
7. They find Jesus Christ and worship Him.
8. They “have exceeding great joy!”

A Wise Man's/Woman's Prayer

Dear God:

This Christmas morning I recognize that something is missing in my life. Today, I realize the reason I lack joy and peace is because I do not have a genuine relationship with Jesus Christ. I desire to repent of my sins and believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior. I now pray for You to save me. I want to worship this morning the new born King.

I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.