

SERMON - WISE MEN: WHY THAT NAME?

Matthew 2:1-2

Matthew 2:11-12

(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, (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.

(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. (12) And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Introduction

From the title, “magi,” they could have been called many things. The scholars who translated the King James Version of the Bible had lengthy discussions on what to call them in the English language. They could have been called kings, priests, scholars, astronomers, potentates, philosophers, intellectuals, or dignitaries. These men were the “movers and shakers” of their society. They were educated in all aspects of Persian culture. The translators of the King James Version settled on the term, “wise men.” Let’s see why they are called wise men.

Exposition

1. They Were Looking Up.

(They Were Positive- Not Negative.)

2. They Correctly Interpreted The Facts.

(Facts Must Be Correctly Interpreted.)

(Wisdom Is The Proper Interpretation Of Facts And Acting Appropriately.)

3. They Came From Afar.

(Distance Was Not A Problem.)

(They Overcame Impediments.)

(In A Spiritual Way, We All Were Far From God At One Time.)

4. They Sought The Right Person For The Right Reason.

(They Worshipped The Christ Child.)

5. They Brought The Right Stuff.

(Gold-Frankincense-Myrrh.)

(No Worship Is Complete Until You Bring Something To God.)

6. They “Out-Smarted” The Devil And Returned Home Another Way.

(They Were Wise Enough To See Through Herod’s Deception.)

(We Must Be Able To Neutralize The Tricks Of The Devil.)

(After True Worship, You Will Not Return The Same Way You Came.)

Closing Thoughts

The question the wise men posed still remains: where is He that is born King of the Jews? The answer: He is in the heart of every true believer! Give God Glory! Give God All The Glory!

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