

The 3 Wise Gifts

© 2015 G. CRAIGE WORKS ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Matt. 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,

Matt. 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.

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

Matt. 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.

Matt. 2:5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

Matt. 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.

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

Matt. 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.

Matt. 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.

Matt. 2:10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

Matt. 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.

Matt. 2:12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.



Important notes about this story:

- There were 3 gifts not 3 wise men.
- They were not in the manger, but in the house.
- Jesus was a young child when the wise men found him, not an infant.
- Their names were not given.

Gifts are not always monetary or tangible, but they should be from the heart. The gifts given by the Magi were expensive gifts and they all had meaning.

- **Gold** honored Jesus as a king,
- **Frankincense** honored Jesus as God,
- **Myrrh** was a sign that Jesus was a man

Gold - King

- Jesus Christ is our ruler and lawmaker. We should obey what He commands in His Word. *Rev. 17:14 These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.*
- His laws and statutes should be followed. In order for Jesus to be Lord of your life, you must surrender your will to His. You cannot be a godking or King of your own life. *John 15:10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.*
- Any other god, including our own flesh, removes Christ as our Lord and King. He must have all or nothing. *Matt. 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*

Frankincense - God

- God enjoys our praise. We offer up our talents to Him as a gift. *Heb. 13:15 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.*
- Our praise is just like frankincense or an incense that goes up to God as a sweet-smelling savor. *Ex. 29:18 And thou shalt burn the whole ram upon the altar: it is a burnt offering unto the LORD: it is a sweet savour, an offering made by fire unto the LORD.*
- We no longer have to sacrifice animals to get the smoke, but the praise of our lips send the same aroma up to God. God actually inhabits our praises. When we praise God we create an atmosphere that He desires to dwell in. *Rev. 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.*

Myrrh - Man

- Jesus is God's only begotten Son. He represented God when He came in the flesh. *John 6:40 And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.*
- In ancient times, when a person died, myrrh was used as an embalming and preserving agent to prevent the body from decaying. This is how Christ's love works for us. We are alive because He resides in us and we have eternal life to preserve us forever. *1Cor. 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.*

- Myrrh was also used for medicinal purposes and we know the power of Christ heals the sick and raises the dead. This gift was symbolic of what Christ did for us all physically and spiritually. *Is. 53:5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

Summary

Christ is worthy of our praise, our glory, and our honor. Jesus came to teach us, heal us, preserve us, and now rule over us, so we should give Him ourselves and fully commit to doing His will. If Jesus is Lord of our lives then we should present gifts befitting of Him. The only appropriate gift would be our bodies as a living sacrifice. We are giving to God what is rightfully His and what He has commanded in His Word. During this holiday season, we may give physical gifts to one another but just like the Magi, we need to offer 3 wise gifts to Christ, our body, soul and spirit. Our entire being is the only suitable gift worthy of our Lord, Savior and King.

Rom. 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

