**06-01-13**

**WISE FOR THE KING**

**Text: Matthew 2:1-12**

* Mat 2:1 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,
* Mat 2:2 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."
* Mat 2:3 When Herod the king heard [this], he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.
* Mat 2:4 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.
* Mat 2:5 So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:
* Mat 2:6 '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.'
* Matt 2:7 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.
* Matt 2:8 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."
* Mat 2:9 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.
* Mat 2:10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.
* Matt 2:11 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.
* Matt 2:12 Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

**INTRO:**

* What made these people wise?
* What have they done?

**AIM:**

* FOR US TO ACKNOWLEDGE JESUS TO BE THE LORD AND KING OF OUR LIVES

**I. THEY CAME FROM THE EAST FOR THE KING-V 1**

* What kind of transportation they had?
* How long did it take for their journey?
* Considering they were worldly king, they didn’t consider that.

**II. THEY SEEK THE KING-V 2**

* To seek means to endeavour to obtain or reach
* They must have set aside a lot of things.
* They had prioritized the Lord

**III.THEY REJOICED WITH EXCEEDINGLY GREAT JOY- V 10**

* Phil 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!
* Their hearts attitude must have made them endure the journey
* Unless your heart rejoices in the Lord, you will struggle in life
* This is a simple command that usually take for granted and troubles come to our lives
* Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the LORD, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.
* Psalm 37:3 Trust in the LORD, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.

**IV. THEY FELL DOWN AND WORSHIPED- V 11**

* Placing the greatest value or worth
* You would neither come, nor seek, nor rejoiced in the Lord
* If you do not value Him above all.
* Ex. Abraham by offering Isaac
* Mat 13:45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls,
* Mat 13:46 "who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.
* One whose occupation is the wholesale purchase and retail sale of goods for profit.

**V. THEY OFFER GIFTS FOR THE KING- V 11**

* Deut 16:16c-and they shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed.
* Deut 16:17 "Every man [shall give] as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you.
* 1Ch 29:1 Furthermore King David said to all the assembly: "My son Solomon, whom alone God has chosen, [is] young and inexperienced; and the work [is] great, because the temple [fn] [is] not for man but for the LORD God.
* 1Ch 29:2 "Now for the house of my God I have prepared with all my might: gold for [things to be made of] gold, silver for [things of] silver, bronze for [things of] bronze, iron for [things of] iron, wood for [things of] wood, onyx stones, [stones] to be set, glistening stones of various colours, all kinds of precious stones, and marble slabs in abundance.
* 1Ch 29:3 "Moreover, because I have set my affection on the house of my God, I have given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house, my own special treasure of gold and silver:
* 1Ch 29:16 "O LORD our God, all this abundance that we have prepared to build You a house for Your holy name is from Your hand, and [is] all Your own.

**VI. THEY WERE GUIDED BY A STAR- V 2, 9**

* They have seen it-v 2
* The star went before them-v 9
* The star didn’t stay in one place and showed them the way but it was moving till it came and stood where the young child was
* Who are the stars nowadays?
* Dan 12:3 Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.
* And he who wins souls [is] wise.
* How about our goal of having 100 regular attendees?
* We don’t invite that much
* Poor soul winning
* We have no contact with the people to be won
* We don’t care that much
* Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as [is] the manner of some, but exhorting [one another], and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.
* Mat 11:18 For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.'
* Mat 11:19 "The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' But wisdom is justified by her children.

**VII. APPLICATION**

* Are we wise enough to offer gifts to the King?
* Gold, frankincense, & myrrh
* Time-are we offering our quality time to God?
* In a week, we have 168 hours- how much of it have you given to the Lord?
* Talents-capabilities should be used for trading
* Treasure/Money
* Mal 3:8 "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.
* Mal 3:9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, [Even] this whole nation.
* Mal 3:10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you [such] blessing That [there will] not [be room] enough [to receive it].
* Mal 3:11 "And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field," Says the LORD of hosts;
* Lev 27:30 'And all the tithe of the land, [whether] of the seed of the land [or] of the fruit of the tree, [is] the LORD's. It [is] holy to the LORD.
* Lev 27:31 'If a man wants at all to redeem [any] of his tithes, he shall add one-fifth to it.
* Deut 14:28 "At the end of [every] third year you shall bring out the tithe of your produce of that year and store [it] up within your gates.
* Deut 14:29 "And the Levite, because he has no portion nor inheritance with you, and the stranger and the fatherless and the widow who [are] within your gates, may come and eat and be satisfied, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hand which you do.
* John 13:17 "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

**CHALLENGE:**

* Are you wise in dealing with your time, talent, and treasure?
* Are you wise to value God’s kingdom of greatest worth?

**CONCLUSION:**

* Mat 13:45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls,
* Mat 13:46 "who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.