

THREE KINGS OF CHRISTMAS PART II
“WORSHIPFUL KINGS”
DECEMBER 9-10, 2017

INTRODUCTION

- Last week we talked about how wicked King Herod was and how God still sent His Son into his realm. And how His Spirit can reign and rule in this world’s chaos.
- We said last week that there is a lot of tradition in Christmas and no more than with these kings.
- This week we will talk about the wise men.

I. THESE KINGS NEVER MADE THE MANGER

- Matthew 2:1-6, Jesus was born in Bethlehem...during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, ²“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw His star as it rose, and we have come to worship Him...”
- No part of the Christmas story is a bigger part of our imagination than the wise men or kings.
- The Pageantry of Christmas is wonderful...
- But we lose some of the heart of Christmas with the pageantry.

II. SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

- Magi probably came in 4-5-6 BC, not 1 AD.
- The Wise Men often are mixed up with the shepherds in Luke 2:8.
- It is doubtful that they wore the royal robes.
- Number of the kings or wise men not given in Scripture.
- Three is traditionally used because three gifts are given.

- The wise men from the east do not arrive until at least 50 days after the birth of the Lord Jesus.

III. PURSUING LIFE AND POSSIBILITY

- The magi saw a star and headed for Jerusalem, where the King of Jews would logically reign.
- Driven by the Spirit of God...they worship, give and love...unlike the spirit of Herod that kills to maintain its grip.
- These men had traveled hundreds of miles...
- And found they were in the wrong place – Jerusalem.
- The magi were only a handful of miles (6) from Bethlehem; what if they had quit?
- Nothing great is ever accomplished by people who quit. Stay in...stay in...stay in...!
- Wise men depart, they see the star again.
- Vs.10 - They rejoiced with a joy great and exceedingly.
- They found the answer and knew they were experiencing a miracle.

IV. THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS

- Found in one word - worship vs. 11
 1. Fell down - literally “to throw yourself down”
 2. No pageantry here, but pouring out of themselves and their treasure.
- The gifts given all had purpose.
- God had made a way.

CLOSE

- They released their kingdom to get His. Herod’s spirit tries to protect its personal interest, guards its kingdom.