

LEARNING FROM THE MAGI

TEXT: Matthew 2:1-12

Introduction

The magi, also commonly known as the wise men from the east, arrived in Jerusalem, seeking the one who had been born king of the Jews. When they found Him, they worshipped Him and gave Him gifts.

This is what we can learn from the Magi:

- They sought Jesus
- They worshipped Him
- They gave Him gifts
- Through a dream they understood God's message

Let us consider each one of these four lessons further

1. They sought Jesus (v2)

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b. They sought Jesus beyond what He could provide but for who He is (v2)

They searched for Jesus while knowing He was a Baby, He could not give them anything.

I want to challenge you even as I challenge myself, let us learn to seek Jesus not for what He can give us but to praise and worship Him, to have fellowship with Him, seek Him because we desire to know Him

better. **Phil 3:10**

2. They worshipped Jesus (v11)

a. We can underscore that Jesus is God (*Isa 9:6, Titus 2:13*), because worshipping anyone or anything else other than God is tantamount to idolatry. (*Isa 48:11*)

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b. When we worship Jesus the Bible says God receives the glory. (*Phil 2:9-11*)

Let us praise and worship Jesus unreservedly and without any sense of guilt that we should be worshipping God instead because Jesus is God and worthy our worship.

3. They gave Jesus gifts (v11)

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- a. We should give gifts to God even now. It is not enough to only worship and stop there. I know giving to God may be a form of worship, but this text differentiates the two.
- b. We may not see Him physically to give Him gifts but when we give to His work and people we are giving Him. (Mat 25:35-40 and 45 cf Heb 6:10)

4. God warned them through a dream (v12)

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- a. God spoke to them through a dream and God still speaks today to us through dreams. (Job 33:14-17)
- b. We should not just ignore dreams, nonetheless not all dreams have a message. There are three sources of dreams; God, yourself and the devil. It is incumbent upon us to know who has spoken to us in the dream and what the message is.

Conclusion

The Magi were non-Jewish scholars and astronomers from whom we have learnt how and why we should seek Jesus, worship Him, give Him gifts and understand that God can even speak through dreams.