Christmas: The Whole Story Part 4 "Responding to the King"

New Hampton Community Church



THE WHOLE STORY

CHRISTMAS SERVICES
In-Person or online -Sundays 10 AM

DEC. 24 • 7:30PM

Isaiah 9:6-7 "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His government and its peace will never end."



Matthew 2:1-8

"Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, 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." ³ King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem.

Matthew 2:1-8

⁴ He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?"

⁵ "In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote:

⁶ 'And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.'"

Matthew 2:1-8

⁷Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. ⁸ Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"



Response to <u>Jesus</u>, reveals the <u>heart</u>



Matthew 2:9-12

"After this interview the wise men went their way.

And the star they had seen
in the east guided them to Bethlehem.
It went ahead of them and stopped
over the place where the child was.

10 When they saw the star, they were filled with joy!



Matthew 2:9-12

¹¹ They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12 When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.



Followers of Jesus, offer their gifts





Luke 2:25-35

At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon.

He was righteous and devout

and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come

and rescue Israel.

The Holy Spirit was upon him

26 and had revealed to him that he would not die

until he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

27 That day the Spirit led him to the Temple.

So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, ²⁸ Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God, saying,²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, now let your servant die in peace, as you have promised.30 I have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared for all people. ³² He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!"

³³ Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother, "This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, and many others to rise. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him.

³⁵ As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul."



Followers, learn to respond with <u>patience</u> and <u>faithfulness</u>





"The life of Christianity consists of possessive pronouns." It is one thing to say, "Christ is a Saviour"; it is quite another thing to say, "He is my Saviour and my Lord." The devil can say the first; the true Christian alone can say the second." Martin Luther