

**Sermon:** Worship Befitting a King

**Bible Passage:** Matthew 2:1-12

## 1. Background

- (a) Matthew has informed us of the identity of Jesus through his genealogy (1:1-17)
- (b) The Gospel writer helps us to calibrate Joseph's obedience to the God (1:18-25)

## 2. Men on a Mission

- (a) Their mission was to locate the 'king of the Jews', and their purpose to worship him
- (b) These were men of great reputation in their land and known around the then known world
  - (b1) They were an ancient people and we see Biblical history towards their tribe in Esther, Daniel and Jeremiah
  - (b2) Somewhere they had also gotten into magic and sorcery (Acts 8:4; 13:6)
- (c) Of such reliability was the wisdom of these men that even Herod depended on them to locate Jesus

## 3. Worship of the King

- (a) The Wise men

- (a1) The wise men were enthusiastic in their search. In contrast to the paleness of chief priests and teachers of the law
- (a2) Men whose word could install and uninstall kings are on bended knee before a child who was living in an ordinary house

- (a3) Their worship befitted any earthly king they would have otherwise met
  - They did not let the setting determine their worship of Jesus
  - They had thoughtfully put together their gifts
  - They did not let the peasantry of Jesus, Mary and Joseph influence their offering

- (b) The Believer/The Church

- (b1) Our worship of the Triune Lord, involves the worship of Jesus who was born in a manger, worked as a carpenter, proclaimed and revealed the Father, died on the cross, rose and is seated at the right hand of the Father

- (b2) He is a King with many a contrast
  - While he was fully human, yet he was fully divine
  - While he was sinless, he mingled with the sinful
  - At his infancy he was worshipped by the ordinary and the wise
  - At his death he appeared a loser, yet when he rose he was a winner
  - At his coming again he will come as the King of kings, not of meanly estate but of Kingly estate

## 4. Take Away

This Christmas season prepare an appropriate gift of worship to offer to the King of kings and Lord of lords