

They fell down and worshipped Him!

Matthew 2:1 Now when Jesus was **born in Beth-lehem** of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came **wise men** from the east to Jerusalem, 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to **worship him.** 3 When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him, In Beth-lehem of Judaea: for thus it is **written by the prophet,** 6 And thou Beth-lehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. 7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the **wise men,** inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 8 And **he sent them to Beth-lehem,** and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and

when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and **worship** him also. **9** When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the **young child** was. **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. **11** And when they were come into the house, **they** saw the **young child** with Mary his mother, and **fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened** their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; **gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.** **12** And **being warned of God in a dream** that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. **13** And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, **Arise**, and **take** the young child and his mother, and **flee** into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. **14** When he arose, he took the young

child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: **15**

And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be

**fulfilled which was spoken
of the Lord by the prophet,**

saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. **16** Then Herod,

when he saw that he was **mocked of the wise men,** was

exceeding wrath, and sent forth, and **slew all the children**

that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from

two years old and under, according to the time which he

had diligently enquired of the **wise men.** **17** Then was

**fulfilled that which was
spoken by Jeremy the
prophet,**

saying, **18** In Rama was there a voice

heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel

weeping *for* her children, and would not be comforted, because

they are not. **19** But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel

of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20
Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go
into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the
young child's life. 21 And he arose, and took the young child
and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when
he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his
father Herod, **he was afraid to go thither:**
notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned
aside into the parts of Galilee: 23 And he came and dwelt in a
city called Nazareth: **that it might be
fulfilled which was spoken
by the prophets,** He shall be called a
Nazarene.

- Notice the verses that speak of the Word of God being fulfilled

- Where He was to be born **5** And they said unto him, In Beth-lehem of Judaea: for thus it is **written by the prophet,**
- That He would come out of Egypt **15** And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be **fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet,** saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.
- That the children would die **17** Then was **fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet,** saying,
- That He would be called a Nazarene **23** And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: **that it**

might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

- A Nazarene is someone from Nazareth
- A Nazarite was someone who had taken the Nazarite vow
- Jesus was Mary's first born **Matthew 1:25** And knew her not till she had brought forth her **firstborn son:** and he called his name JESUS.
- Joseph and Mary did not have physical relations until Jesus was born **Matthew 1:25** And knew her not **till** she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

1. They traveled a great distance to worship Him! **2** Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to **worship him.**

- a. To worship means to acknowledge that someone or something else is greater, worth more, and so be to obeyed, feared, and adored
- b. To worship has the idea of **giving yourself completely** to this person or object
- c. It means I want to be **mastered by it**
- d. That is the idea of reasonable sacrifice **Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.**
- e. These wise men believe that **Jesus is worthy** of whatever sacrifice, gift, work, travel or whatever they have to do. Even the trip was a sign of their worship.
- f. They were men of wisdom and leadership recognizing that there was someone **worthy of their devotion and honor**
- g. What are you doing in your heart, your life, with your time, your talents, your income that shows that He is worthy of your honor and sacrifice?

2. Herod claims that he wants to go and worship the King **8**

And he sent them to Beth-lehem, and said, Go and search

diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and **worship** him also.

- a. Of course, Herod is lying because **worship means submission** and he had no plans of submitting
- b. Worship means that you **see the other as superior** to yourself
- c. Worship means that you see the other as **worthy of your love, esteem and obedience**
- d. Worship would mean to **ascribe greatness** to and Herod could do that to no one
- e. True worship would have meant that he would **lay aside his own plans** and look for the Lord himself but he has no desire to set aside his plans
- f. Is your worship real? Do you want Jesus more than you want something for yourself? Do you want to use Jesus for your own purposes?

3. Expressions of worship we can learn from the wise men [11](#)
And when they were come into the house, **they** saw the **young child** with Mary his mother, and **fell down,**

and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; **gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.**

- a. They fell down which was a sign they recognized that He was **superior**
- b. The wise men showed **extravagance**
 - i. They fell down
 - ii. They worshipped which means that they expressed their love in words and actions
 - iii. They gave extravagant gifts **11** And when they were come into the house, **they** saw the **young child** with Mary his mother, and **fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened** their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; **gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.**
 1. They opened their treasures not what was left over
 2. They gave gifts of real value and meaning
 3. Giving gifts or tributes to another is to recognize that they are more valuable than you

c. The wise men **fell down and worshipped.**

- i. That was customary in the idea of worship which is to **show respect, to prostrate oneself** before the other
- ii. It had the idea of **bowing and throwing a kiss** or kissing the ground where they walked
- iii. The ancient Persians kissed on the lips if they were of equal rank, on the cheek if their rank was slightly different but when one was inferior he fell on his knees, put his forehead on the ground and threw kisses at the superior
- d. They worshipped Jesus not Mary. They recognized who deserved the honor
- e. Their gifts came as an expression of the worship or reverence that they felt
- f. What gifts are you giving to God
 - i. The first gift you give is your self **II Corinthians 8:5** *And this they did, not as we hoped, but **first gave their own selves to the Lord,** and unto us by the will of God.*
 - ii. You quit living for yourself **II Corinthians 5:14** *For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: **15** And *that**

he died for all, that **they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves,** but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

iii. Give Him a broken and contrite heart **Psalm 51:17** The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

g. How have you shown that He is superior? What extravagance have you given or shown towards Him?

4. Truths about worship

a. **We become like what we worship** **Psalm 115:1-8** Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, But unto thy name give glory, For thy mercy, *and* for thy truth's sake. **2**

Wherefore should the heathen say, Where *is* now their God? **3** **But our God *is* in the heavens: He hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.** **4** Their idols *are* silver and gold, The work of men's hands. **5** They have mouths, but they speak not: Eyes have they, but they see not: **6** They have ears, but they hear not: Noses have they, but they smell not: **7** They have hands, but they handle not: Feet have they, but they walk not: Neither speak they

through their throat. **8 They that make them are like unto them; So is every one that trusteth in them.**

- b. You can tell what a person worships by **the way it rules their time, energy, thoughts, longings, and choices**
- c. Worship is much more than singing and the emotions that come with musical worship
- d. Worship had to do with the work in the Tabernacle or Temple
 - i. The sacrifices, the praise, the prayers
 - ii. Anything being done for God out of love for Him
- e. Worship has the **idea of extravagance**
 - i. Extravagance in the respect and admiration paid to
 - ii. Extravagance in the devotion expressed
 - iii. Extravagance in the esteem felt
- f. **Worship is our response to God**, who He is, what He says, and what He does through our mind, will, emotions, and body
- g. Worshippers must come in the **prescribed manner**

John 4:23-24 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in

truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24

God *is* a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship **him in spirit and in truth.**

- i. Not so physical or outward as many religions have made it
- ii. It is coming from your inner most being and an expression of who you really are
- h. Worship is **your identity before it is your activity**
 - i. When you worship everything you think, desire, choose, do or say is shaped by your worship**
 - ii. Being a worshipper means that you **attach your identity,** your meaning, your purpose, your inner sense of well being to the one you worship
 - iii. No one can really understand your reasoning** to be so fanatical about your worship
- i. Worship by giving Him glory

- i. With your good works [Matthew 5:16](#) Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
- ii. By sharing the gospel with others [John 15:8](#) Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

- Do you truly worship Jesus?
- Does He dominate your thoughts?
- Do you focus on Him?
- Do you consider any sacrifice to be just your reasonable service?