

SeeKING Jesus
Matthew 2:1-12

Introduction:

- A. Matthew is the only writer to tell us the story of the wise men coming to Jerusalem.
- B. While this is a story many people think they know, many miss some of the significance of this story.
- C. Like the people found in this account, we must decide what we will do when it comes to Jesus?

News of the Birth of A King (vs. 1-2)

- A. While tradition says a lot about these men, the Bible actually gives us few details about them.
- B. The wise men came to Jerusalem searching for “He who has been born king of the Jews.”
- C. We may not know how they learned of Jesus (Num. 24:17), but we see how they sought Jesus.

Some People Seek to Oppose Jesus (vs. 3-8)

- A. Herod was troubled at the news and so was all of Jerusalem with him. Why would all of Jerusalem be troubled by this news? Maybe because they knew what kind of man Herod was.
- B. Herod saw Jesus as a threat. As long as Jesus was around, his throne was not safe (v. 16).
- C. People today oppose Jesus because they do not want to surrender to His rule over their life.
 - 1. Jesus calls people to seek Him and His Kingdom above everything else (Matt. 6:33).
 - 2. Jesus calls people to deny themselves (Matt. 16:24).

Some People Seek to Worship Jesus (vs. 9-12)

- A. The wise men traveled hundreds of miles just to fall down and worship Jesus.
- B. Their worship was not about them, it was all about Jesus.
- C. These men opened up and gave their treasures to Jesus. They did not withhold their best.
 - 1. When we come to worship, what do we offer up to the Lord (Psa. 95:6-7; Heb. 13:15)?
 - 2. Do we give Him our best or do we think just showing up is enough?

Some People Do Not Seek Jesus (vs. 2, 5-6)

- A. It seems no one was really paying attention to Jesus until the wise men showed up in town.
- B. The religious leaders had knowledge of Jesus (Mic. 5:2), but they did not put that knowledge into practice. It appears they made no effort to travel the 5-6 miles to Bethlehem to see Jesus.
- C. Knowing about Jesus is not the same thing as seeking after Jesus.
 - 1. We are not a disciple of Jesus if we choose to ignore His teachings (1 Jn. 2:4-6).
 - 2. Jesus spoke out against the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees (Matt. 23:27-28).

Conclusion:

- A. The reaction of the people in the days of the wise men is not much different than today.
- B. When it comes to Jesus we can choose to oppose Him, worship Him, or ignore Him.
- C. Will you choose to seek Jesus and follow His will for you this morning?