

Come Adore:

What Does It Mean To Celebrate Christmas?

Matthew 1:18-25; 2:1-12- "Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be w/ child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man & unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, & you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive & bear a son, & they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God w/ us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus. Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose & have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, & all Jerusalem w/ him; & assembling all the chief priests & scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly & ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go & search diligently for the child, & when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come & worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly w/ great joy. And going into the house they saw the child w/ Mary his mother, & they fell down & worshiped him.

Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold & frankincense & myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.”

- **Christmas Is About Us Finding A Savior:**
 - John 1:17b- “...grace & truth came through Jesus Christ.”
 - Luke 1:32-33- “He will be great & will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, & he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, & of his kingdom there will be no end.” (He is the Savior King)
 - Matthew 1:23b- “They shall call Him Immanuel”= “God w/ Us”
 - Matthew 2:6b- “...for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”
- **If We Found A Savior King, Nothing Else Could Compare**
 - Matthew 2:10-11- “When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly w/ great joy. And going into the house they saw the child w/ Mary his mother, & they fell down & worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold & frankincense & myrrh.”
- **The Star Could’ve Easily Been A Distraction:**
- **Why We Adore Him Today:**
- **He Took Our Shame So We Could Be Clean:**
 - 2 Cor 5:21- “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”
- **He Became Poor So We Could Be Rich:**
 - 2 Corinthians 8:9- “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.”
 - Philippians 2:7-8- “Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, but made himself nothing, taking

the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”