

“How many Kings are in this story?”

Sermon

Matthew 2:1-12

January 7, 2018

Rev. Joshua Reifsteck

- 1) These “Wise Men,” or “Three Kings,” might be better labeled “Magi.” .

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men Magi from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?” *Matthew 2:1-2*

- 2) God’s plan works in spite of the ignorance of Jerusalem .

“The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.” *Acts 17:30-31*

- 3) God’s plan works in spite of Herod’s power .

“Take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, 12 lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them...”

“Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’ 18 You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.” *Deuteronomy 8:11-12, 17-18*

- 4) God’s plan is not Herod’s plan, or Jerusalem’s, or the Magi’s, but it is discernible .

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. 2 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

“Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” *Ephesians 5:1-2, 15-17*

- 5) What is your reaction to the news of this King?
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