

PENINSULA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

God's Wise Men

The First Christmas...

Who did God first reveal His Son to?

- Mary & Joseph, His aunt Elizabeth & His unborn cousin John, some nameless shepherds, an old obscure man named Simeon, and an elderly prayer warrior named Anna.

Any royalty? Any rich & powerful? Any politicians or religious leaders?

- Not yet

Don't you think that reveals something about God's priorities?

- Always pay attention to the beginning of God's things
- It's where His end game always comes from

Matthew 2:1-12

- Wealthy, heathen, foreign, magician, astronomers

What made these wise men wise?

- And why did God choose them? Because He did...

God's first command to Abram was to make himself a foreigner (**Gen.12:1-3**)

- And learn what he did not know yet
- By now... Israel had made themselves the standard

First - They listened **for** God... and **to** God.

(**Ps. 19:1-6**)

- (**Gen. 12:1**, God said to Abram)
- They weren't Hebrews, (Neither was Abe) but knew God's promise to His people
- They were responsive to what He revealed to them

All wisdom comes from God

Proverbs 2:6 & 9:10, "For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding."

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom"

Who was God looking for?

They didn't count themselves the source of wisdom

- They did intend to find it. (**Proverbs 2:1-6**)
- They didn't suppose to define God's will for them
- They shared His revealed wisdom & supported each other in it
- The cost of obedience didn't deter them

They came to worship God's Son, not the Jewish system

- Peter would learn that lesson on a rooftop, not in the synagogue

How many who identify with God have that measure of wisdom?

- How many know too much already?

How do these wise men compare with the Pharisees?

- To whom God had already revealed His wisdom...
- Who already knew how & where Messiah would come

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God drawing these men is not about **who they were**

- It shouldn't be about who we identify people as either

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It's about **who God is**, and who He reveals Himself to be

- **John 14:9**, "He who has seen Me has seen the Father"
- **Colossians 2:9**, For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily

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Who does God want?

- Who did Jesus choose first?

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I Corinthians 1:26, For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.

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Genesis 12:3, "I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you **all the families of the earth** shall be blessed."

- Excluding people as people groups violates God's will & blessing

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II Peter 3:9, The Lord is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

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Who should we be surprised that He calls & uses to glorify Christ?

- On whose terms?

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How can we recognize wisdom?

- **Matthew 5:3-10** = Wisdom

James 3:17, Wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

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The wise men offered their gifts to the King about two years after His birth.

- It's never too late...

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They sought Him out and brought gifts fit for a King.

- Barry McGuire song... "What Shall We Give To The King?"
- What will you give to the King?

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***Wise men still seek Him**