

November 28, 2018
“Keeping Christ in Christmas”
Matthew 2:1-12
David Self

“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, wise men from the east arrived unexpectedly in Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.”³ When King Herod heard this, he was deeply disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ So he assembled all the chief priests and scribes of the people and asked them where the Messiah would be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem of Judea,” they told him, “because this is what was written by the prophet: ⁶ And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the leaders of Judah:

because out of you will come a leader who will shepherd My people Israel.” ⁷ Then Herod secretly summoned the wise men and asked them the exact time the star appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find Him, report back to me so that I too can go and worship Him. ⁹ After hearing the king, they went on their way. And there it was—the star they had seen in the east! It led them until it came and stopped above the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed beyond measure. ¹¹ Entering the house, they saw the child with Mary His mother, and falling to their knees, they worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their own country by another route.” (Matthew 2:1-12)

1) Keep Christ in Christmas by Giving Him Your Best

- A. Sacrifice “wise men from the east” (1)**
- B. Faith “For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him” (2)**
- C. Generosity “presented Him with gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh” (11)**

2) Keep Christ in Christmas by Overcoming Opposition “When King Herod heard this, he was deeply disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.” (3)

3) **Keep Christ in Christmas by Understanding His Miraculous Birth “because this is what is written by the prophets” (5)**

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