Disciple's Quest

If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.

John 8:31



December 26, 2021 Matthew 2 The Magi – Part 2

Main Idea:

Unexpectedly, gentiles from a distant land were among the first to recognize who Jesus was and to worship Him. Israel's religious leaders, on the other hand were indifferent about the news of His birth.

Outline:

Three points to help understand who the Magi were and why their story matters (continued from last week):

4) Unnatural Direction

5) Unmistakable Worship

6) Unauthorized Departure

#1	Herod's hostility toward Jesus, who he perceived as a possible human rival, is not surprising. The cool indifference on the part of the religious leaders of the Jews, however, is alarming. Why do you think they neither expressed joy at the news the Messiah had been born, nor attempted to find him?
#2	How would you describe the difference between faith in Jesus and the mere practice of religion?
#3	What is the danger of seeking natural explanations for events plainly described in Scripture as supernatural?
#4	How do authentic worship and counterfeit worship differ?
Select helpful resources: Carson, D.A. <i>Matthew Vol. 1 (Ch 1 – 12), The Expositor's Bible Commentary.</i> Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.	

Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

Köstenberger, Andreas J. and Alexander E. Stewart, *The First Days of Jesus*, Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2015. Morris, Leon. *The Gospel According to Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992. Toussant, Stanley. *Behold the King – A Study of Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1980. Turner, David L. *Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.