Is Jesus YOUR King
Matthew 2:1-12

Are You Announcing Jesus as King?
1 Now when Jesus was born in Beth-lehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, **2** Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

In Your Actions
- The wise men specialized in astrology and were highly sought after by leaders and rulers.
- Their journey began far from Jerusalem and required significant effort as they searched for Christ.
- However, the reason for their search, to honor Christ, outweighed the difficulty.

In Your Announcements
- The wise men went to the temple, which was the most logical place to find the King.
- Their question when they got to Jerusalem emphasized their faith rather than their folly in being in the "wrong" place.
- They asked where, not if.
- Also, they called Him King of the Jews while Herod called Him a young child.
- Furthermore, the word "saying" is in the present active tense, meaning the wise men kept asking about Jesus as they made their way through the temple.
- They were persistent in their pursuit of Christ.
    - John 1:10 – He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

In Your Ambitions
    - Matthew 20:20 – Then came to him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping *him*, and desiring a certain thing of him.
    - Matthew 18:26 – *The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.*

Are You Avoiding Jesus as King?
3 When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. **4** And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. **5** And they said unto him, In Beth-lehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, **6** And thou Beth-lehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. **7** Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. **8** And he sent them to Beth-lehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

For Fear of Conviction of Sin
- No one was talking about the birth of Jesus, but when He was mentioned, it troubled the people.
- Herod was troubled by the announcement of Jesus because He was a rival to the throne he held. – Many times, this is the fear man has today at the idea of accepting Jesus.

- Trouble arose because Jesus came differently than people expected and because they feared a change in authority.
    - Matthew 13:15 – For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.
- Though many were troubled at the announcement of Jesus as King, some from those groups later believed.
    - Acts 6:7 – And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.
    - Acts 18:8 – And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house; and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized.

By Fighting for Confidence in Self

- Herod was taken aback by the announcement of Jesus and began to investigate the wise men's claim.
- Though Herod did not know the answer, he knew where to find the answer.
- The religious leaders who gave Herod the information knew how to respond verbally, but failed to follow through with action. – Head knowledge is not equal to heart knowledge, and information is not equal to application.
    - Micah 5:2 – But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, *Though* thou be little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of thee shall he come forth unto me *that is* to be ruler in Israel; Whose goings forth *have been* from of old, from everlasting.

By Fraud of Counterfeit Surrender

- Herod kept his meeting with the wise men private to conceal his intentions to kill Jesus. – A hidden relationship with Jesus is an attempt to depart from Jesus at the first opportunity.
    - Proverbs 15:3 – The eyes of the Lord *are* in every place, Beholding the evil and the good.
- Some spiritual knowledge would have helped Herod in his attempt to destroy Jesus. – Many people want enough information about Jesus to relieve the spiritual pressure in their lives.
- Everyone should accept the encouragement to search diligently for Jesus.
    - Isaiah 55:6 – Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, Call ye upon him while he is near:

Are You Accepting Jesus as King?

9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. **11** And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. **12** And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

See the Sights of Success

- The wise men did not merely see another star, but a supernatural sight from God to lead them to Christ.
- The provisions of God in uncertain times ought to cause joy in those seeking the Savior.
- God honors those who diligently seek Him.
    - Isaiah 64:5 – Thou meetest him that rejoiceth and worketh righteousness, *Those that* remember thee in thy ways: Behold, thou art wroth; for we have sinned: In those is continuance, and we shall be saved.
    - 2 Corinthians 6:2 – (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.)
    - Deuteronomy 4:29 – But if from thence thou shalt seek the Lord thy God, thou shalt find *him*, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.
    - Jeremiah 29:13 – And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

See the Savior and Sacrifice

- Jesus was found in a house, not the manger where He was born.
- When the wise men found Jesus in the house with Mary, they fell down and worshipped Him. – The direction of your worship is essential.
- Moreover, their worship was not mere lip service; it was accompanied by sacrifices offered to the King of Kings.
    - Psalm 95:6 – O come, let us worship and bow down: Let us kneel before the Lord our maker.
    - Psalm 96:9 – O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Fear before him, all the earth.
    - Philippians 2:9-11 – **9** Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: **10** That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; **11** And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

See the Signs with Submission

- "Being warned" means a response was given as an answer to a question.
- Seek the appropriate authority for accurate directions.
    - James 1:5 – If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.
- God's warning was given after obedience was exercised.
- Given two commands, one from Herod and another from God, the wise men had to choose who to follow.
    - Acts 5:29 – Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.
    - Matthew 6:33 – *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*
    - 1 Peter 5:7 – Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.