

Encounter Christmas
Magi Encounter the Christ
First Christian Church—December 23, 2018
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Righteous Foreigner ? (Romans 2:13-15a)

We focus so much on the sins of others and the differences that divide us that we often miss the focal point of the Christmas Story—the very meaning of our Messiah's name.

- The politically correct message: Luke 1:68-71
- The message we don't like: Luke 1:76-79
- God's message through the prophet: Isaiah 59:20
- Messiah's birth announcement/job description: Matthew 1:21

GOD's Story: Magi Encounter the Christ, Matthew 2:1-12

• **Astronomers from the East: The Planet Followers, Matthew 2:1-2**

- *al-kokabani* = "those who study and follow the planets."
- The Star: Your light has come— Isaiah 60:1-3

• **A Ruler from Bethlehem, Matthew 2:2-8** (Micah 5:2,4)

• **The Sons of Your Oppressors Bow before You, Matthew 2:9-12**

- "They opened their treasures and presented him with gifts." — Isaiah 60:6
- "They bowed down and worshipped him." – Isaiah 60:14

BIG Idea: When our focus is on Jesus the Messiah, our minds and hearts are changed, *we repent of our own sin*, and the walls between us and our enemies are broken down. Only then can we come together to worship and serve our Savior.

- Ephesians 2:14-17

Right On!