

(14) _____ for somebody.

John 19:38-39—“After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus.³⁹ And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.”

Jesus was born to die—but so are (15) _____!

Hebrews 9:27—“And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment...”

APPLICATION: Understanding the reality of death allows us to

(16) _____ of our lives.

QUESTION: Is God one step (17) _____ of us?

Additional Notes: _____



Today’s message will be available online at www.ffc.org, both to view as an archived message and to download from a podcast. To purchase today’s message on CD for \$5 or on DVD for \$10, please stop by the First Family Inspiration Book and Gift Store located in the Grand Foyer.

Answers: 1-Daniel 2-gifts 3-gifts 4-God 5-King 6-symbolize 7-Frankincense 8-priest 9-annointing 10-chosen 11-holy 12-Myrrh 13-death 14-coffin 15-we 16-let go 17-ahead

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“Why I Believe In Santa Claus: The Spirit of Christmas Lives On!”
Sunday Evening, December 13th, 2009

Message #4: “Recognizing Who Jesus Is at Christmas”

Matthew 2:1-12

Pastor Christian Newsome

Matthew 2:1-12—“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

3 When Herod the king heard this, 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 inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

5 So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

6 ‘ But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
Are not the least among the rulers of Judah;
For out of you shall come a Ruler
Who will shepherd My people Israel.’ ”

7 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”

9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen 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 exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

12 Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.”

The Biblical magi had ancient ties to (1) _____.

Daniel 2:1-2—“Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar’s reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him.² Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.”

The Biblical magi and their (2) _____ were prophesied in Isaiah.

Isaiah 60:1-6—“Arise, shine;
For your light has come!
And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.

² For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth,
And deep darkness the people;
But the LORD will arise over you,
And His glory will be seen upon you.

³ The Gentiles shall come to your light,
And kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴ "Lift up your eyes all around, and see:
They all gather together, they come to you;
Your sons shall come from afar,
And your daughters shall be nursed at your side.

⁵ Then you shall see and become radiant,
And your heart shall swell with joy;
Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.

⁶ The multitude of camels shall cover your land,
The dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
All those from Sheba shall come;
They shall bring gold and incense,
And they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD."

FACT: Recognizing who Jesus really is is as simple as remembering the
(3) _____ of the Wise Men presented at Christmas!

"What the Gifts Given to Jesus Teach Us"

Gift #1: (4) _____

Gold was a gift that was only given to a (5) _____.

The gift of Gold (6) _____ that Jesus would be a king.
I Kings 10:1-2—"Now when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with hard questions. ² She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels that bore spices, very much gold, and precious stones; and when she came to Solomon, she spoke with him about all that was in her heart."

Gift #2: (7) _____

Frankincense was a gift given to a (8) _____.
Leviticus 2:1-2—"When anyone offers a grain offering to the LORD, his offering shall be of fine flour. And he shall pour oil on it, and put frankincense on it. ² He shall bring it to Aaron's sons, the priests, one of whom shall take from it his handful of fine flour and oil with all the frankincense. And the priest shall burn it as a memorial on the altar; an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the LORD."
Leviticus 2:14-16—"If you offer a grain offering of your firstfruits to the LORD, you shall offer for the grain offering of your firstfruits green heads of grain roasted on the fire, grain beaten from full heads. ¹⁵ And you shall put oil on it, and lay frankincense on it. It is a grain offering. ¹⁶ Then the priest shall burn the memorial portion: part of its beaten grain and part of its oil, with all the frankincense, as an offering made by fire to the LORD."

Frankincense was used for (9) _____.

'*Anoint*' (Web. Dictionary)—to apply oil to as a sacred rite especially for consecration
b : to choose by or as if by divine election;

DIVINE ELECTION: Jesus was (10) _____ for the specific task of dying for our sins.

SACRED RITE: Jesus was consecrated for (11) _____ ministry.

APPLICATION: God has a role for us to fulfill in life and God wants us to be Holy.

I Peter 1:15-16—"But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."
Matthew 5:48—"Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Gift #3: (12) _____:

Myrrh was the ointment of (13) _____.

Giving the gift of myrrh is equivalent to purchasing a