

December 23, 2018

Series: Delivered

Sermon Title: *Why deliver to Wise men?*

Key Scripture:

Matthew 2:1-12 (ESV)

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’” ⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

Big Idea:

Transformation over information

The wise men sought **WISDOM**, Herod sought only **KNOWLEDGE**

Matthew 2:1-2 (ESV) ¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

Matthew 2:3-4 (ESV) ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

The Mission of Clearbranch UMC is
to **ENGAGE** people through relational ministry,
to **EQUIP** disciples for Christ and
to **EMPLOY** their gifts through missions.

The wise men sought for **WORSHIP**, Herod sought from **WORRY**

Matthew 2:10-11a (ESV) ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.
^{11a}And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him.

Matthew 2:7-8 (ESV) ⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”

The wise men delivered **DEPOSITS**, Herod devised **DECEPTION**

Matthew 2:11b-12 (ESV) ^{11b}Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way

Challenge Questions:

What is the motivation behind your pursuit of Jesus?

How can you spend more time in worship than worry this week?

What are you depositing into your relationship with Jesus?

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The Vision of Clearbranch UMC is Transformed Lives offering the Transforming Love of Christ.