

INTRODUCTION

*THE FEAST OF THE INCARNATION ... is a wonderful time to remember how God fulfilled His great grace to us by sending forth His only begotten Son - part of the godhead - to be incarnate, in order that He might be the perfect sacrifice, paying the penalty of our sins and purchasing us back to the Father who loves us! (cf, Isaiah 48:16; Zechariah 2:10-11; John 1:1,10,14)

*We have been considering some of the "Voices" of this miraculous event. So far we have considered "The Voices of Faith" (revealed in Mary and Joseph), the "Voices of Good News" (revealed in the Angels and the Shepherds), and the "Voices of Redemption" (revealed in Simeon and Anna).

*Today, we will consider "The Voices of Adoration" revealed in the Wise Men.

*The wise men came to worship (Matthew 2:1, 11). To worship is to regard with great and extravagant respect, honor, and devotion. It is our proper response to God (Matthew 4:10; Roman's 12:1; Revelation 14:7).

*"... For all nations shall come and worship before You ..." -- Revelation 15:4

INSTRUCTION

I. DISPELLING MISCONCEPTIONS (Matthew 2:1-12)

1. Not T_____.

2. Not K_____.

Wise men = Greek #3097 magos → Probably "astrologers" here
Mt 2:1,7,16; Acts 13:6,8

Septuagint: Daniel 1:20; 2:2,10,27; 4:7; 5:7,11,15

3. _____

House = Greek #3614 oikia Mt 2:11; 5:15; 7:24-27; 8:6,14

Inn = Greek #2646 katalyma Lk 2:7; Mt 14:14; Lk 22:11

Child = Greek #3813 paidion Mt 2:8,9,11,13,14,20,21

Baby = Greek #1025 brephos Lk 1:41,44; 2:12,16; 1 Pt 2:2

4. _____

II. DISCERNING THE SIGNS

1. The S_____. Matthew 2:2,7,9,16

Numbers 24:15-19 (use with caution); Daniel 9:2,11-13

2. The P_____ Matthew 2:6

Micah 5:2

III. DEMONSTRATING DEVOTION (Matthew 2:2,11)

Worship = Greek #4352 proskyneo

INTROSPECTION

*HOW IS YOUR WORSHIP? (Do you think about it? Plan for it? Cost you something? Give up comfort?)

*ARE YOU IN AWE OF GOD? (Or do you take Him for granted?)

*HAVE YOU PLACED YOUR FAITH ALONE IN JESUS CHRIST AND RECEIVED THE GIFT OF THE PEACE OF GOD?

*IS THERE A NEED TO "CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK" **about worship** ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU **WORSHIP**?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

*Are there ways that our desire to worship could potentially be seen by others as an amazing and unusual commitment, thus perhaps causing people to wonder about the God we claim to love and serve?

*Would it be a good or bad thing if other people thought "That's crazy what they do in order to worship"?

*What things would potentially help us to be more passionate about worship?