

December 27, 2020

Unexpected Christmas | Unexpected Faith

Matthew 2:1-12 (NASB)

“The Visit of the Magi

2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ² “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw 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 gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for this is what has been written by the prophet:

⁶ **‘And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
Are by no means least among the leaders of Judah;
For from you will come forth a Ruler
Who will shepherd My people Israel.’”**

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and determined from them the exact time the star appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found *Him*, report to me, so that I too may come and worship Him.”

⁹ After hearing the king, they went on their way; and behold, the star, which they had seen in the east, went on ahead of them until it came to a stop over *the place* where the Child was *to be found*. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And after they came into the house, they saw the Child with His mother Mary; and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And after being warned *by God* in a dream not to return to Herod, *the magi* left for their own country by another way.”

1. Faith is committing to the Journey.

- a. Committed to be ready when it is time to start.
- b. Committed to ask the necessary questions.
- c. Committed to endure the setbacks
- d. Committed to reach the destination.

2. Faith is recognizing the promised Child. (11-12)

- a. Recognizing Jesus as the promised shepherd.
- b. Recognizing Jesus as the promised King.
- c. Recognizing Jesus as the promised Messiah.