

Post Christmas

Luke 2

1. Intro

1. What happens after Christmas?
2. Several different groups of people.
 1. Magi, religious leaders, Herod, and the family.

2. Magi

1. Came from the East.
2. Wise men in Daniel's day. (Dan 1:20)
3. Gentiles seeking the King of Kings.
 1. Forerunner to the Gentiles being included into the Kingdom
 1. Other sheep (John 10:16)
4. Followed a star.
 1. Was it celestial or local?
 2. Israel followed the glory of God as they came out of Egypt.
5. Came to the "house". (11)
6. Presented three gifts. Gold - monetary; frankincense - incense ; myrrh - burial

3. Religious Leaders

1. Knew the prophecy of the One to be born. (6) (Micah 5:2)
2. Did not have the desire to seek out the possibility, even when it was reported as happening.
3. Too comfortable in their world to seek out the truth.

4. Herod's Anger

1. Is alarmed (3)
 1. Someone could be a challenge to his throne.
2. All Jerusalem is alarmed also.
 1. They knew his rage and were afraid of any possible retaliation.
3. In his old age paranoia set in.
 1. He has killed various family members to protect his power.
 1. Two sons; a wife; other in-laws.
 2. He sets his mind to get rid of any other threat, even though he may truly know what this Ruler would be.
 3. Lies about his intentions (8)
 4. Orders the death of all children 2 and under.
 1. Bethlehem about 1000 population. How many babies (20?)
 5. What are a few children more?
4. Weeping
 1. The slaughter of innocent children in Bethlehem was a fulfillment of prophecy (17-18) (Jer 31:15).
 1. In connection with the young men going into Babylonian captivity.
 2. Martyrs
 1. We remember these little ones.
 2. They died for the Christ whom they never knew.
 3. He in turn died for them so that they might live.
 1. Could the mothers of the lost babies put any comfort in Jer 31:16

5. The Family

1. Joseph receives instruction to go to Egypt. (13)
 1. To save Jesus
 1. It sheltered Him from the enemy.
 2. For Jesus to come out of Egypt (Hosea 11:1)
2. We see foreshadowing in Israel
 1. Went to Egypt for safe keeping.
 2. They grew to a great nation and then God brought them out to His own place.
3. Again Joseph is instructed when to leave Egypt. (19)
4. Goes to a town called Nazareth
 1. An insignificant place.
 2. What good can come from Nazareth (John 1:45)

6. Application

1. Magi
 1. Gentiles are included in His kingdom.
 2. Gifts given where the very best. Should we not surrender to Him our best?
2. Religious leaders.
 1. Are we so familiar with the message of Jesus that we take what we have for granted?
 2. We can have an intellectual head knowledge about Jesus, but never “know” Him.
 1. We may substitute this for the submission of will and trust of heart.
3. Herod.
 1. We set ourselves against what we know to be God’s will, and consciously seek to prevent it.
4. The Family
 1. We have instructions to follow if we choose.
 2. We may live what we think are insignificant lives, yet when connected to the Source of Life our life is significant.

7. Conclusion

1. There is much to think about after the birth of Christ.
 1. We see the fulfillment of scripture.
 2. We see God’s plan in action.
 3. We see the outcome of this story directly affects our lives.
2. Now that the birth has past, do not forget the purpose, redemption.