

WHO HE IS AND WHAT WE NEEDED

Matthew 2:11 (7-11)
December 24, 2011

INTRODUCTION: Their giving was not so much an addition to their worship as an element of it. Their gifts were an expression of worship, given out of the overflow of adoring and grateful hearts.

These gifts tell us ***Who He Is*** and ***What We Need***. Seneca tell us that in Persia it was the custom that no one could ever approach the King without a gift. These 3 gifts speak of Christ's ***Humility***, His ***Deity***, and His ***Royalty***.

I. IN HIS HUMILITY HE KNEW WE NEEDED A SAVIOR.

Myrrh – is a resin from dried sap from the trees of Southern Arabia. It was used as incense but with a bitter fragrance. It was given to Jesus at His birth (prophecy) and at His death. The gift of a mortal.

Billy Graham said, *“Jesus was born into the family of a man that we might be ‘born again’ into the family of God.”*

In **Matthew 1:21**, we have a record of Joseph's dream

“And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

“Jesus” – Savior/Redeemer

II. IN HIS DEITY HE KNEW WE NEEDED AN INTERCESSOR

“frankincense” – is resin from the dried sap of the Boswellia tree, grown on the slopes of the Arabian Sea for thousands of years. In ancient times, frankincense and gold were equally precious; a gift for a priest. A priest is one who opens the way to God for man. Latin word for priest is bridge-builder. This word is used in the Old Testament and the New Testament.

**Job 9:32-33, “For He is not a man, as I am,
That I may answer Him,
And that we should go to court together.
Nor is there any mediator between us,
Who may lay his hand on us both.”**

1 Timothy 2:5, “For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus”

The writer of Hebrews magnified the office of the High Priest – Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 7:25, “Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.”

Hebrews 4:14-16, “Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Note the significance of this ministry;

1 Peter 3:18, “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit”

III. IN HIS ROYALTY HE KNEW WE NEEDED A KING

“gold” – a gift for a king; as King Jesus came to rule our hearts

Matthew 6:33, “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.”

- **Our Guide**
- **Our Leader – Leadership**
- **Our Director – Direction**

CONCLUSION: In His humility, Jesus, being God clothed in flesh, died for us. In His deity, He was raised from the dead. Now, He is highly exalted as He reigns as King of Kings.