

***Intro:***

Main Point of Text: Jesus rewards the right way of responding to Him: receiving and reverencing Him as the King of Kings.

Sermon Point: *Choose You This Day Whom Ye Will Serve.*

***Move 1: Choose to believe on King Jesus Who Humbled Himself for You.***

Born in manger (possibly a cave). Stinky animals outside in cold. A King? God-man? Prophecies fulfilled to mean your humble needs:

- Vs. 5-6, Micah 5:2. Good true king. “shepherd” for rule. Jn. 10:11; Heb. 13:20; 1 Pet. 2:25.
- Vs. 14-15, Hos. 11:1. Good true son. Israel the type, Ex. 4:22-23. She was delivered out of Egypt, but failed wilderness text. Jesus will be delivered, and pass it on Church’s behalf (Mt. 4). Specific context in Hosea: He will restore his own unfaithful wife. Picture of God/His wife through Christ.
- Vs. 23, no OT quote. Not a quote, but a summary of what the prophets (plural) together emphasized together about Jesus (not “that spoken/saying”). E.g., Ps. 22/Isa. 53. Point, Jesus would live on the wrong side of the tracks. Nathanael in Jn. 1:46 of Jesus: *Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?* Jesus came *lowly* riding on a donkey (Zech. 9:9 in Mt. 21:5). Not a white horse!
- WSC 27: *Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist? A. Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition ...* Did this because of your humiliating situation/identify with you: Isa. 9:6; Heb. 2:18; Heb. 4:15-16; Phil. 2:5-8.

***Move 2: Choose to humble yourself before King Jesus.***

Magi: obeyed God (vs. 12). Worshipped Jesus (vs. 2, 11). Magi: “great”, but humble. Hendriksen, Vs. 2: probably traveled > 1K miles! They gave of their riches to Jesus. Joseph/Marry obeyed, protected Jesus (vss. 12, 14, 22-23) humbled). Acts of humility. Cherishing Jesus as King, not selves. Notice their reward: vs. 10. Also, Bethlehem, the birthplace of King David, means “house of bread” (Jesus is the Bread of Life). Psalm 105:3.

***Move 3: Do not cling to your desire to be king.***

Herod the Great’s response to Jesus: vss. 3, 16, 19. Tried to kill all threats to his throne (including family). Romans named *him* “King of the Jews.” Jerusalem was troubled because of what would happen to them if Herod acted in his madness (vs. 3). This is Herod’s history, even of family members, even up to death! (vs 4, 7-8). Notice Herod’s reward: exceeding wrath, died (vss. 16, 19). Be sure you are not angry with Jesus. Nor apathetic: vs. 2.

***Move 4: God will only allow His Son to sit on His throne as King of Kings.***

All prophecies of Christ being *fulfilled*, though Satan tried to stop it. Vss. 17-18, Jer. 31:15, God will not allow Satan to kill His Son. Nor His children. Context, Tribe of Benjamin going into exile. Had nearly been annihilated in Judges. Rachel died birthing Benjamin while on the way to Bethlehem. Bethlehem's baby boys (probably only 15-20, Hendriksen). Hendriksen: Ramah is the border town between Israel and Judah, both deported to far away places. Rachel was the mother of Joseph (Ephraim, often another name for Israel, Northern Kingdom) and Benjamin (representing Judah, Southern Kingdom). Jer. 31:15: comfort in context. God will gather those whom He scattered. Once more she weeps over the death of God's children and potential annihilation by other kingdoms, but the King of Kings shall return and from Egypt and restore them for ever, ultimately in the Resurrection. Slaughter so similar to Moses in Egypt: God used midwives to protect Moses and he became their deliverer. Type of Christ. Like ch. 1, angles/dreams guided the whole thing to preserve the life of the Christ Child (vss. 12-13, 19-20, 22). Herod's/Satan's actions actually preserved Christ's sole identity as Messiah. Acts. 2:22-24. Vss. 2, 7, 9-10: God sent a miraculous star that actually shepherded them to the Good/Great Shepherd (vs. 9)! (Jesus is the star prophesied by Balaam in Num. 24:17). Jesus is the day star arising in your hearts: (2 Pet 1:19); He says of Himself in Rev. 22:16, *I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star*. Vs. 2: King of the Jews, as written above His head at His crucifixion by the Jews who would still not bow to Him in believe. Be warned by Psalm 2; Rev. 17:14; Mt. 10:34; Phil. 2:10-12 quoting Isa. 45:23. Don't respond to Jesus like Herod, but like the Magi, Mary, and Joseph. Don't be led around by your own impulses, but by God's Revelation.

***Conclusion:***

Josh. 24:15.

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