

A DIFFERENT KIND OF KING

Matthew 2:1-12

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INTRODUCTION: UNDERSTANDING CHRISTMAS

Sometimes, we know a story so well that we don't understand it at all.

One reason:

Another reason:

1. All of the stories of Jesus childhood in Matthew 2 are unique to Matthew.
2. All of the stories include a prophecy that Jesus fulfilled.
3. All the prophecies fit into a pattern.
 - a. Each are said to fulfill a specific prophecy made by a real prophet (s).
 - b. Each presents an interpretive challenge.
 - c. Each include a location
 - d. Each include a person
 - e. Each contrast the quality of Jesus' kingship to the quality of earthly kings.
4. Each story shows the response or anticipated response of an earthly King to King Jesus.

Proposition: Christ came as a different kind of King so that man would have the King he needs, not the King he expected.

? What kind of King was the Messiah to be?

I. NOT THE KING YOU WERE EXPECTING

Micah 5:2

"But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Too* little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity."

2 Samuel 5:2b

"...the Lord said to you, 'You will shepherd My people Israel, and you will be a ruler over Israel.'"

A. SAUL: A KING THE NATIONS DESIRED

1 Samuel 8:10-22

1 Samuel 16:6-8

When they entered, he looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is before Him." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

B. DAVID WAS A SHEPHERD

Psalms 78:70-72

He also chose David His servant And took him from the sheepfolds; From the care of the ewes with suckling lambs He brought him To shepherd Jacob His people, And Israel His inheritance. So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, And guided them with his skillful hands.

C. CHRIST CAME AS A SHEPHERD

Ezekiel 34:12-16

As a shepherd cares for his herd in the day when he is among his scattered sheep, so I will care for My sheep and will deliver them from all the places to which they were scattered on a cloudy and gloomy day. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the streams, and in all the inhabited places of the land. I will feed them in a good pasture, and their grazing ground will be on the mountain heights of Israel. There they will lie down on good grazing ground and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I will feed My flock and I will lead them to rest," declares the Lord God. "I will seek the lost, bring back the scattered, bind up the broken and strengthen the sick; but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with judgment.

1. The Shepherd King Cares

Matthew 9:36

Matthew 11:28-30

2. The Shepherd King Discerns

Matthew 25:32

3. The Shepherd King Unites And Leads

Matthew 26:31, 32

John 10:4, 5 (ESV)

When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.

II. STILL THE KING TO BE WORSHIPPED

A. REJECTED BY ISRAEL

B. WORSHIPPED BY NATIONS

APPLICATION

1. Will you seek the Shepherd King?

2. Will You Worship Him?

? How will you respond to the King who came to be your Shepherd?