



Advent Series || Week 3 || December 13, 2020

Read **Matthew 2:1-12** and answer the following.

According to the text, what brought the wise men to Jerusalem?

Why did this trouble Herod? Why did this trouble all of Jerusalem?

Herod inquired of the chief priests and scribes as to where the Christ was to be born. How did they answer? Given their reply what might you expect from them?

Contrast Herod, the chief priests and scribes, and the wise men from one another. How did each respond to their knowledge of Jesus' birth?

Despite Herod's words to the wise men (**v.8**), we later see his real motivation for knowing Jesus' location (**v.16**). What had Herod planned to do?

Read **Micah 5:2-5a**. How does Jesus fulfill this prophecy? How is the One born to rule different from the Roman-appointed ruler Herod?

What did the wise men do upon seeing the Christ-child? What can you personally take away from the wise men, their actions, and their involvement in the very first Christmas?

The genealogy of Jesus (**Matthew 1:1-17**) serves as a thesis for the rest of the book. It shows us that God keeps His promises to His people and extends grace to the least deserving. How do you see each of these truths fulfilled in this passage? What promises are kept? To whom does God extend grace?

How does this passage of Scripture most comfort and/or convict you personally in this Christmas season?