

## The Seekers, The Scrooge, and The Savior

Matthew 2:1-18

### The Seekers

#### ● Their identity

1. Magi or w\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Greek word, *magos* - where we get our word m\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Babylonian culture (Dan 1:20) – part of the king's court, skilled in astrology, consulted s\_\_\_\_\_ for guidance.
2. Men from the E\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. G\_\_\_\_\_ (non-Jewish)
  - b. They knew about the King of the Jews (the Christ) due to the teachings by a chief magi in their history named Belteshazzar (the Babylonian name of D\_\_\_\_\_ (Dan 4:9)
  - c. Scripture says nothing about a s\_\_\_\_\_ that would appear to indicate the birth of Christ (if there were Matthew would have quoted it, since this is his pattern throughout the book).

#### ● Their direction

1. W\_\_\_\_\_ - this means that they did not follow this star to Jerusalem (they saw the star in the east)
2. The star appeared again while they were on their way to B\_\_\_\_\_ (six mile journey from Jerusalem)
3. The star led them to the e\_\_\_\_\_ location of the Christ child, which means it was not a natural phenomenon, but a supernatural one.

#### ● Their purpose in reference to Christ

1. Primary – w\_\_\_\_\_ the child (they acknowledged Christ as G\_\_\_\_\_)
2. Secondary – give g\_\_\_\_\_ (rare and precious)

#### ● Who are today's seekers?

1. Rom 3:10 – no one seeks G\_\_\_\_\_ on their own
2. Jn 6:44 – no one can come to Christ unless the Father d\_\_\_\_\_ them
3. We who have experienced God's work on our hearts are the seekers! Have you come to worship Christ?

### The Scrooge

#### ● His identity

1. King H\_\_\_\_\_ (appointed by Rome as ruler over the Jewish people)
2. Historically, a ruthless k\_\_\_\_\_, passing the death sentence on anyone who opposed him.

#### ● His purpose in reference to Christ

1. Summoned the s\_\_\_\_\_ to search the scriptures concerning the birth place of the Christ (Mic 5:2)
2. Interviewed the magi to determine when the s\_\_\_\_\_ first appeared (used it to calculate the maximum age of the Christ)
3. Pretended to be a w\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ
4. Primary purpose – to k\_\_\_\_\_ the Christ to preserve his throne.

#### ● The result

1. A massive slaughter of c\_\_\_\_\_

2. The Christ child unharmed because of God's w\_\_\_\_\_ to Joseph.
  3. Herod went to his grave thinking he was successful
- Who are the scrooges of today?
    1. Those who only think about \_\_\_\_\_ (inward attitude indicates this)
    2. Those who see Christ as un\_\_\_\_\_ (lifestyle indicates this)

### **The Savior**

- There is only one Savior – J\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 4:12; I Jn 4:14)
- There is only one compelling force that can change the heart – the H\_\_\_\_\_ or the Holy Spirit (Jn 16:8).
- Have you thanked the Savior for His gift of grace?