



GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday Evening Sermon by Ray Reynolds
December 10, 2017

The Christmas Visitors

Introduction It is Christmas time! I want to share spiritual lessons we can learn through the Christmas season. I want us to see how everything connects back to the gospel story. Each of us have opportunities to talk about Christ during this holiday season and God has given us many visual reminders of His saving work. Jesus did a marvelous job teaching object lessons throughout His ministry. We need to learn from Him. Today we will discuss the Christmas visitors (**Matthew 2:1-12** and **Luke 2:8-20**). Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. *The Shepherds*

- Stage #1 From the Shepherds to Jesus (**Matthew 2:1-12, Luke 2:8-20**)
- Stage #2 From Jesus to Paul (**I Corinthians 15:1-11, Galatians 1:11-12**)
- Stage #3 From Paul to Timothy (**I Timothy 6:20, II Timothy 1:13-14**)
- Stage #4 From Timothy to reliable men (**I Corinthians 4:1-2, II Timothy 2:1-2**)
- Stage #5 From reliable men to us (**II Timothy 3:16-17, Matthew 28:18-20**)

II. *The Magi*

- Seeking Christ takes effort (**Matthew 6:33**).
- Seeking Christ takes time (**Matthew 7:7**).
- Seeking Christ takes sacrifice (**Philippians 3:1-11**).
- Seeking Christ takes endurance (**Jeremiah 29:13**).
- Seeking Christ brings rewards (**Psalms 16:11**)

III. *The Observer*

- Believing helps us to become righteous (**Genesis 15:6**).
- Believing should be accompanied by action (**Deuteronomy 27:10**).
- Believing should affect the way we live (**Mark 1:15**).
- Believing should lead us to salvation (**Romans 10:9-10**).
- Believing is more than acknowledging (**James 2:21**).

Conclusion: How should we respond to the Christmas story? What can we learn from the Christmas visitors? How can we share the gospel story during Christmas? Will you share spiritual lessons you have learned? Are you seeking the Lord? Are you giving a message of hope to others? Have you received salvation through Jesus?