MAGI: The Wise Still Seek Him Matthew 2:1-12 David Renwick December 12, 2021

No clue about their names, number, royalty: ... but ....

- tradition calls them *Balthasar, Melchior, and Gaspar*
- -- we think of "3" because there were three gifts
- -- <u>Isaiah the prophet speaks about Kings (Is.60)</u> following the Messiah's light & bringing gifts to the Messiah

What we know is this = They are representative figures

#### 1. They represent the <u>WHOLE WIDE WORLD</u> COMING TO JESUS

Not just from the known world of Rome & the West But from the vast expanse of the unknown world ("the East")

- A world-wide vision for people of every race and tongue -
- when less than 25,000 followers of Jesus in the whole world.

# 2. They represent HUMAN KNOWLEDGE & WISDOM <u>FINDING ITS CENTER</u> in A PERSON (Jesus)

## $\underline{\textit{not}}$ an object or idea, or knowledge or data

The Magi were the intelligentsia and scientists of their day Brought to their knees before a baby

- the sign of God's incredible humble love
- embraced by a kind of knowledge that science cannot explain

# 3. They represent the <u>*RIGHT RESPONSE TO Jesus*</u>:

## HUMILITY AND GENEROSITY

They lay aside their pride and knelt down, paid homage (worshiped), & opened their treasure-chests – giving their ALL: total allegiance

- not just who they were -- but what they had
- a costly & sacrificial act of commitment

## WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME

Jesus actually changed the course of your life? You gave away something of enormous value/expense for him alone? You saw the center of life in terms of relationship? With Jesus? You expanded your vision for Christ from your small world to his? ... THE WISE STILL SEEK HIM ...