

## Matthew 2:1-10

- “After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born.”

- “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: “ ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.’”” Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

- When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.”

# **GIFTS TO THE CHRIST- CHILD, GIFTS FOR THE CHRISTIAN**

Penge Baptist Church

17<sup>th</sup> January 2010

# Gifts....

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THE VISIT OF THE WISE-MEN

The visit of  
the Magi?

# Gold for a king

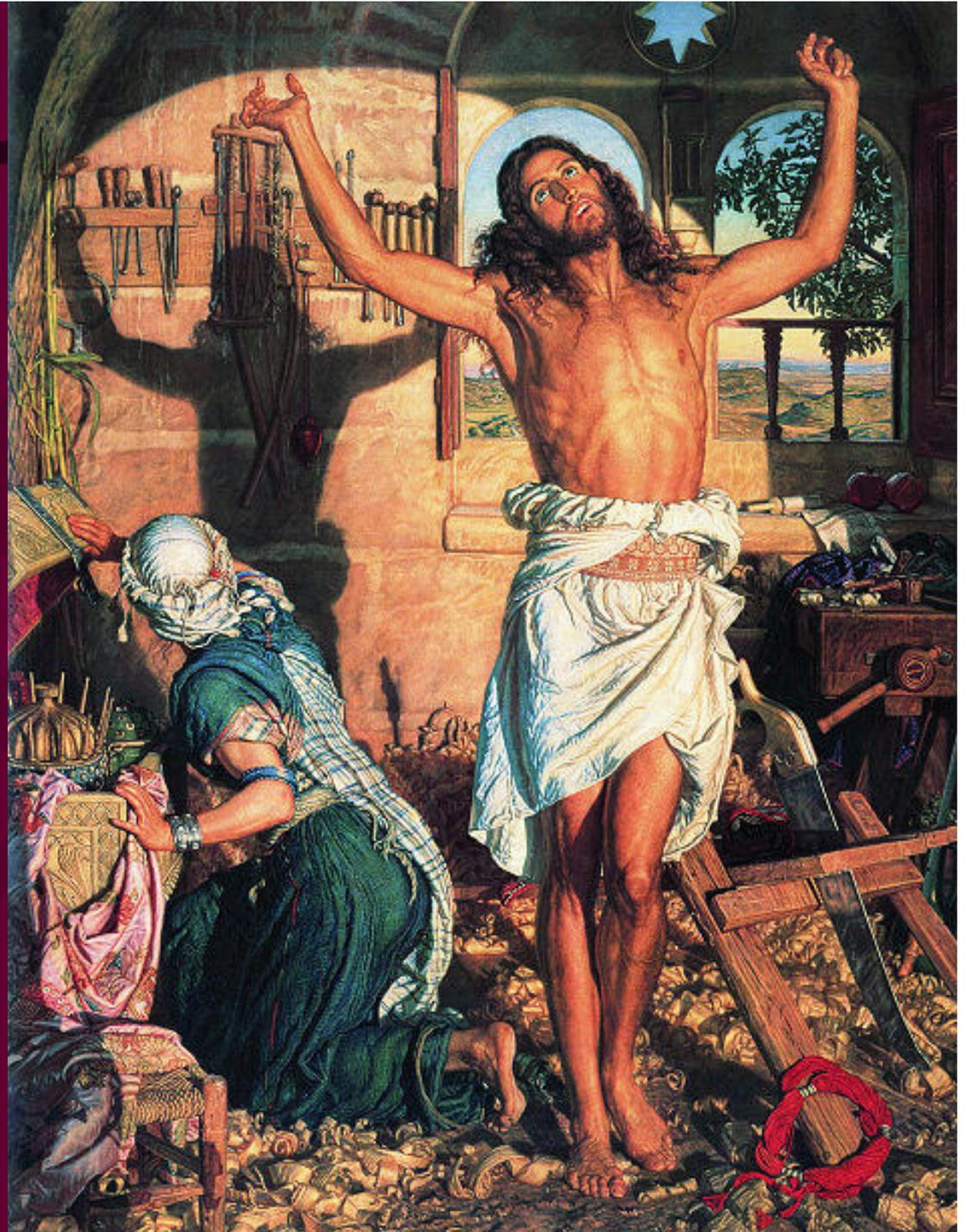
- Numbers 24:17 “A star will come out of Jacob; a sceptre will rise out of Israel”.
- Matthew 27:37 “Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS”
- Revelation 19:11,16 “I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war..... On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords”.

# Incense for a priest

- Revelation 5:8 “Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.”
- Hebrews 4:14 “we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God”

# Myrrh for a saviour

- John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”



# Jesus the saviour – our gift of salvation

- Ephesians 2:1-2 “as for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world”.
- Ephesians 2:4-5 “But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.”

# Jesus the king – our gift of adoption

- Romans 8:14, 16 “those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.... And by him we cry, “Abba,Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”
- Ephesians 2:6 “God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus”.

# Jesus the priest – our gifts of priesthood

- 1 Peter 2:4-5 “As you come to him..... you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”
- 1 Peter 2:9 “you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God”

# Jesus the prophet and our prophetic gifts

- Luke 13:33 “I must keep going today and tomorrow and the next day—for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem!”
- 1 Corinthians 14:1 “follow the way of love and eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy”

What is our response?

# Give freely

- Using our gifts, with.....
- **Gold** for generosity as Christ showed
- **Frankincense** for compassion as Christ showed
- **Myrrh** for unselfishness as Christ showed



# Penge Baptist Church

- A church of kings
- A church of priests
- A church of self-sacrifice
- A church of prophets
- ....then the world will know Jesus