

1) Introduction

- Christmas is over – but life is not over
- life as normal, people / politicians alike all still troubled about the times we live in
- There is still more for us to do
- Jesus Birth was only the beginning of the story
- The story of the Wise Men
 - Appearing of the Star was only the beginning
 - Then the journey... Took possibly 2yrs
 - When they arrived in Jerusalem... **troubled hearts**
- The Wise men kept on looking for Jesus until they found Him
 - **Wise men Worship**

Matt 2:2-3 & 11

Story: Michael was a major in the U.S. Air Force. Captured and imprisoned from 1967-73 in North Vietnam at the POW Camp, Hanoi Hilton. He was no longer just wearing the colours. **He had become the colours.**

Worship is not just an action – it should be who we are...

2) Wise men followed the Brightest Star

- They followed the Brightest Star, but they worshiped Jesus – not the star
- The star it guided them – lead them to Jesus
- Worship is not about the stars
- The wise men wanted to meet – encounter Jesus - It all about **JESUS**
- We too must **worship Jesus**, not just follow the stars
- **Like Michael Christian - You don't just wear worship. You MUST become Worship!**
- **Worship is every day not just Sundays**

3) Worship is Demonstrated**a) Give Him what He desires - Worship is what pleases Him**

The response in return for the right gift is much more pleasurable.

- Jesus' desire from us is: **A relationship with Him.**
- Jesus' desire from us is: **A Spiritual Sacrifice**
- He desires a spiritual sacrifice:
 - Not a sacrifice for Sin - Jesus has already done the sin sacrifice for us
 - He made you a **Priest** – Priests offer spiritual sacrifices of worship to the King
 - He desires a sacrifice from you His priest
- **YOU ARE ALL PRIESTS**

1 Pet 2:5**b) Worship can be seen**

- The wise men "**Triple Worshiped**"
 - 1) The wise men "**Fell down**"
 - Fall down ('*pipto*') = down from our loft ideals
 - = Laydown prostrate, Loose our authority (denying oneself)
 - 2) The wise men "**Worshiped Him**"
 - Worship ('*proskyneō*')
 - to kiss the hand to (towards) one, in token of reverence
 - fall upon the knees, touch the ground with the forehead
 - an expression of profound reverence

Matt 2:11

3) The wise men “**Opened their treasures**”

- a place where valuables are kept, presented Him gifts
- Our tithes and Offerings is Worship
- “**Treasures**” – Grk (*‘thēsauros’*) – we get the English word: *‘Thesaurus’*
 - words in groups of synonyms and related concepts
 - dictionary or encyclopaedia
 - Our worship comes primarily from our mouths
 - From the treasure (vocabulary) of our hearts,
 - expressed through the open mouth – spoken or sung

4) **Awakened to Worship**

- We need to be awakened to **who Jesus is** – We need to see Jesus just like the wise men
- Awake and sing, praise – ***I will – Speak to yourself...*** ***Ps 57:7-11***
 - We sing, shout and make music (clap your hands) ***Ps 47:1***
 - Extend your hands out in worship ***Ps 57:9, PS 134:2***
 - Bow down and worship & Stand to worship ***Ps 95:6***
 - We give finances in worship ***Prov 3:9 (NLB & TPT)***
- For the King this behaviour is appropriate

5) **Conclusion – His Response**

- When we **BECOME WORSHIP**, bring sacrificial worship to our **KING** we receive a divine response from Him.
- Once the wise men worshiped – They heard God for themselves ***Matt 2:12***
- **He can’t resist true Worship, we receive His Glorious Presence**
 - Our Worship brings His Presence ***James 4:8***
 - Our Worship opens the doors of joy, life and blessings ***Psalm 16:11***
 - Our Worship brings us into a closer relationship with Him ***Psalm 100:4***
 - Breaking of Bread – Sacrifice – What has Jesus done for me!?