

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

21.12. 2025

Christmas calls for a changed life, not only a celebration.

We now come to the stage where the different groups of people encounter Jesus for the first time.

They come from different locations, social backgrounds, status, and cultures. Despite the differences, they all shared the same response.

Their response was not one of passivity; instead, their reaction was worship. Their status did not overshadow their greatest gift, which was their act of worship.

In Jewish customs, the shepherds were never allowed to give witness in court, yet they were the ones to whom the angels appeared as the first witnesses to the birth. They brought nothing but their worship to a helpless child.

The first to visit Jesus was the Shepherds (Luke 2:8-20). They were first evangelist of the good news! When we encounter Jesus, it must lead to worship. Worship rooted in obedience, not emotions, must lead to witness.

The next is that of the wise men (Matthew 2:2-12). They were not Jews but Gentiles who may have travelled for as long as two years to see Jesus.

The wise men (Magi) were quintessential worshippers. Contrary to tradition, these were not kings, but most likely astrologers from Persia or Babylon, and whilst they brought three gifts, there were not three men. It was most likely a caravan of travellers.

They all bowed down and worshipped Jesus upon their arrival.

'...when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him...(Matthew 2:11).

This gathering of travellers was moved to make themselves lower so that Jesus could be higher.

Christmas transcends the season; instead, it marks the beginning of the reason as to why we have this season called Christmas.

It is easy for us to be consumed by the magnitude of shopping, gifts, and food, while losing the very reason for Christmas: to worship our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

This Christmas, what gift will you bring, and who will you share the good news with? Make the gift your heart and share the reason for the season with everyone which Jesus Christ.

Remember, Christmas calls for a changed life, not just a celebration.
