

Christmas Changes Everything

About How We See Our Stuff

Pastor Ken Cramer

December 23, 2018

Genesis 3:16–24 (NIV84)

Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. 18 It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.

The Magi were astronomers from the East who studied a number of disciplines. They poured over prophecies. They analyzed the stars. They studied the writings of the day.

Kingdom Government is different than elected Government

In a Monarchy, the King is sovereign over everything.

In the Kingdom, everything belongs to the King. Property, people, and policies are all subject to the monarch. Rights and rules are subject to the one who is the Ruler.

Matthew 2:9–12 (NIV84)

9 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. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 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. 12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

They Bowed down

They Worshiped Him

Worship is due God alone. We become like what we worship.

They Opened their treasures

They Presented him with gifts

Gold- Valuable for it's beauty and exchange

Frankincense- An aromatic resin from trees which is burned as incense.

Myrrh- An antiseptic and anti-inflammatory. It had a number of medicinal uses in the ancient times. It was an element of the ancient anointing oil in the Old Testament.

Church Announcements:

1. **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Monday Dec 24**, from 6 - 7 PM for the whole family.
2. Wednesday night Adult Small Groups, Girls Ministries, Royal Rangers and Verge Youth will not be meeting on December 26th.
3. **New Year's Eve Service on Monday, Dec 31st** from 6 - 7:30 PM.
4. The church office will be closed from December 24th to January 1st. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
5. **Men's Breakfast**, Saturday, January 5 at 8:30 AM in the Verge Building.
6. **Sunday, January 6th is "Vision Sunday"** where LightHouse will share the vision of the New Year, 2019. Happy New Year!
7. **A church-wide "21 Days of Prayer and Fasting" event** from Sunday, January 6 and ending on Saturday, January 26th. Fasting booklets are available in the church office to help you with any questions you may have on how and what to do on a Fast.
8. **Adult Small Groups** will be studying "Breathing Room" by Andy Stanley on Wednesday nights at 7 PM in the main Sanctuary from January 9 to 30.