

REFOCUSING ON WORSHIP

Matthew 2:1-12

- I. PURSUING A DESIRE TO WORSHIP: THE WISE MEN WERE SEEKING ONE WORTHY OF WORSHIP (MATTHEW 2:1-2).
 - God enables our worship when we desire to worship.

- II. EXPECTING OPPOSITION TO WORSHIP: FEARFUL HEROD FELT THREATENED BY JESUS WHILE THE MAGI LONGED FOR HIM (MATTHEW 2:3-8).
 - A. Insecure Herod found out that Christ was to be born in nearby Bethlehem (2:3-6; Micah 5:2).

 - B. Herod pretended to desire worship but only wanted to kill Jesus (2:7-8; 13-18; Revelation 12:4-5).
 - Satan tries to prevent people from understanding the gospel of grace through Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 4:4).

- III. EXPERIENCING WORSHIP: GOD GUIDED THE WISE MEN TO YOUNG JESUS SO THEY COULD WORSHIP HIM (MATTHEW 2:9-12).
 - We are called to worship through verbal praise, service to others and sacrificial giving (Hebrews 13:15-16).