

GIFTS FOR THE KING

Matthew 2:11

Introduction: Most people think of Christmas in terms of what they are going to receive or what they are going to have to buy and give. The tree, decorated, the house, decorated, outside bushes, decorated, the eaves and gables of the house, decorated, and so on. Christmas is indeed a time of the year that most people look forward to however few really enjoy the real spirit of Christmas and that is "unselfish giving." Have you ever wondered how "giving" at Christmas really started? Well, let's take a look at how Christmas got started in the first place.

I. GOD WAS THE FIRST TO GIVE AND HE GAVE HIS SON

1. *Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:10-11*
2. *John 3:16*
3. *2 Corinthians 9:6*
4. *Romans 6:23*

II. THEN THE ANGELS GAVE A SONG WITH A MESSAGE

1. *Luke 2:13-14*
2. It was not for the angels to give a Savior.
3. It was not for angels to give silver or gold.
4. They could, however, give a song.
 - To God's glory - (of good will among men).
 - Think about it, nobody is too poor to sing.
 - "O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing"
 - "I Will Sing The Wondrous Story"

III. THE SHEPHERDS GAVE A STORY (Good News)

1. *Luke 2:17*
2. They received the witness (news from the angels).
3. They believed what the angels told them.
4. They then hurried off to tell the good news to others.
5. So, why can't we do the same?

IV. THE WISE MEN GAVE OF THEIR SUBSTANCE (Gifts)

1. *Matthew 2:11*
2. They were looking for the Savior.
3. They worshiped the Savior when they found Him.
4. They gave expensive gifts, the best they could find), indicating their sincerity.
 - "*Give Of Your Best To The Master*"

V. MARY GAVE SUBMISSION

1. *Luke 1:38*
2. Mary gave more than a song and a story, she gave of substance.
3. Mary gave her life, her soul, her complete being/self.
4. Mary faced misunderstandings, criticism, even possible death.
5. We, too, can give submission of all that we are.

VI. BETHLEHEM GAVE A STABLE

1. *Luke 2:7*
2. Mary gave her all and Bethlehem gave a little stable - what a contrast.
3. Just think! There was no room in Bethlehem for God's Son!
4. What about YOU? Do you have room for Jesus?

CONCLUSION:

1. So, what will you give this Christmas to Jesus?
- Will you give a song? Perhaps a story? Of your substance/submission? Or will you give Jesus your life?
2. "Must I Go And Empty Handed"
3. Giving unselfishly started when Jesus was born. Join the others who give of themselves to the Lord Jesus, not just at Christmas, but every day of the year.