

For: Sunday, December 24, 2017

“Faithful Seekers of the King”

Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

GOLDEN TEXT:

“When they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.” — Matthew 2:11

TODAY’S AIM:

“To understand the background and reasoning for the actions of the wise men.”

INTRODUCING THE LESSON:

The wise men were literally magi, priests probably of the Zoroastrian religion. They were considered to be the most intellectual of all men and pursued knowledge, especially in the fields of science, astronomy, and astrology. They exhibited high moral standards, believed in one supreme god, and rejected polytheism and idolatry.

During their frequent observations of the heavens, they plotted the stars and predicted future events and fortunes. They searched the sky for answers to everyday problems. Their calculations of the heavenly bodies were extremely accurate and precise, recording the position of thousands of stars and planets.

PRACTICAL POINTS:

1. Do not be deterred by humble beginnings when you know God is at work (Matthew 2:1).
2. When you search for Christ, trust that you will find Him (Matthew 2:2).
3. Expect that there will always be those who are threatened by Christ and will oppose Him (Matthew 2:3-4).
4. Many seek after Christ but do not recognize Him because He works in ways they do not understand (Matthew 2:5-6).
5. Trust God to guide you as you encounter evil or unclear motives (Matthew 2:7-8).
6. An encounter with Jesus will change the direction of a life (Matthew 2:9-12).

CONCLUDING THE LESSON:

This narrative should cause us to ask ourselves a few questions. First, the wise men left their homeland and traveled hundreds of miles searching for the Child until they found Him. How much energy are we willing to expend to worship our King? Second, the Magi followed the unique leading of the Lord through the star. They obeyed God and lived by faith. Do we live by faith? Third, the Persian travelers worshipped the Christ, not the trappings. Do we love Christmas because of all the traditions, or are we centered on worshipping Christ the King?

The Grace Memorial Baptist Church

1100 North Eden Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21213
Reverend Marshall L. Barnes, Pastor



“The Church That Cares”

Sunday, December 17, 2017
11:00 A M

Sick and Shut-Ins

Trustee William Atkinson, 1088 Cameron Rd., 21212
Deaconess Marion Leach, C/O Patapsco Valley Center,
9109 Liberty Rd., Room 247A, Randallstown, MD 21133-3521
Sis. Ila Scott, 1631 W. Lexington St., 21223
Bro. Reginald Werrell, 902 Woodson Rd., Apt. T, 21212, 443-872-1723
Deaconess Beverly Wilson’s daughter and Sis. Lisa Wilson’s sister,
Sis. Chareese Brogden, Brintonwood Nursing Home,
5009 Frankford Ave., Room 216, 21206
Bro. Edward Withers, C/O Manor Care – Roland Park,
4669 Falls Rd., Room 328A, 21209

Special Prayer Requests

Pastor Marshall Barnes’ friends, Sis. Vanessa Dancy,
Bro. Sylvester Briddell, Sis. Yvonne Rice and Sis. Kathy Seal
Trustee William Atkinson’s wife, Sis. Martha Atkinson
Sis. LaPorcha Barnes’ co-worker’s sister, Sis. Denise Griffin
Sis. Shirley Eldridge and Trustee Inez Robb’s aunt, Sis. Lucille Lindsay
Sis. Erica Faison’s friend, Bro. Ladonte Locus
Sis. Cynthia Franklin’s daughter, Sis. Yolanda
and son, Bro. Melford Franklin and their families
and aunt, Sis. Mable Stancil
Sis. Wanda Garrett’s niece, Sis. Kayla James
Sis. Pamela Harris’ mother-in-law, Sis. Brenda Smith
Sis. Tana Hicks’ grandson, Bro. DeWayne Lashley
Sis. Shirle Hubbard’s sister, Sis. Valerie Hubbard
Sis. Eliza Jennings son, Bro. Robert Jennings, Jr.
Sis. Anndell Lawrence’s mother, Sis. Carrie Lawrence
and Granddaughter, Little Miss Treasure Fenwick
Sis. Kim McDonald’s children, Bro. Correll Wilson,
Bro. Tayo Daniels, Jr., Bro. Theodore Wilson,
and Sis. Ta’Brielle Daniels

Birthdays



December

17	Brian Crudup
25	LaPorcha Barnes
28	Shirle Hubbard

*“High Standards and High Expectations
for the Glory of God.”*

Church News

TODAY

Immediately following the morning service, the **Ushers Ministry** will sponsor a **Spaghetti Dinner and Bake Sale**. See enclosed flyer for more information.

ALSO TODAY

Our **Christmas card mail box** will be available in the rear of the church, for in-house members only, until next Sunday, December 24. **No outside cards will be delivered.** Please pick-up your cards before leaving the church.

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, December 31. **Before Watch Night Service**, there will be a **fellowship feast at 8:00 p.m.** **Everybody** is asked to **bring a covered dish** to share. Then, at **10:00 p. m.** promptly our **annual Watch Night Service** will begin. The **Mass Choir** will be singing.

BOOKS WANTED!

If you have **new or used books** that you no longer need/want, please donate them to our **“Bring A Book, Take A Book” program.** Books can be given to **Sis. Joann Robinson** or dropped off at the church office.

PHOTOGRAPHS/NEWSPAPER ARTICLES WANTED!

We are requesting pictures and/or newspaper articles taken **during the 90 years** of Grace’s existing. If you have such, please submit to our church office so that we can create a **historical timeline album.** All photos and/or newspaper clippings will be returned within a week.

Don't Forget!

SOUP KITCHEN

Tuesday, December 19 from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p. m.

PRAYER SERVICE/BIBLE STUDY

No Wednesday night services December 20th and December 27th. Will resume Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Emergency Notices

All emergency situations are to be reported immediately to the Pastor
Reverend Marshall L. Barnes
e.g., death, hospital emergency, etc.

The Deacon and Deaconess Ministry

The following Deacons and Deaconess are available to assist members of our Church with prayer and offering of a helping hand whenever assistance is needed and subsequently requested:

During the period of December 11, 2017 through January 14, 2018 contact the following:

Deacon Luke Montgomery Sr., 443-629-7297

Deaconess Charmaine Cook, 410-298-6133

Deaconess Norma Pope, 410-532-6174

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Reverend Marshall L. Barnes, *Pastor*
Reverend Frank Bell, *Associate Pastor*
Sister Carolyn Moorehead, *Secretary*

Church Office: 410-563-2355

Fax No.: 410-563-7857

Web-Site Address: <http://www.gracememorialbaptist.org>

Facebook Address: Grace Memorial Baltimore, Maryland

Twitter Address: GraceMemorial1

Words of Wisdom

*“Jesus is not in the manger anymore.
He is seated at the right hand of
Almighty God.”*

SERMON NOTES

Sunday, December 17, 2017

LISTEN to the message from God’s Word. **USE** this sheet to make some personal notes. **GO** back over them through the coming week. **LET** God crystallize these truths in **YOUR** life.

Sermon title: _____

Biblical text: _____

Main idea of sermon: _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Illustration I want to remember: _____

What should I do as a result of hearing this sermon?

*“The people that walked in darkness
have seen a great light.” — Isaiah 9:2 a*

MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 17, 2017

*Processional.....11:00 A.M.

**Call to Worship and Invocation*

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*Hymn of Praise #93.....“O, Come All Ye Faithfull”

O.T. Reading (Isaiah 9:2-6).....Deaconess Norma Pope

N.T. Reading (Luke 2:36-40).....Sis. Talisha Pitt

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Selection.....Mass Choir

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Morning Prayer.....Deaconess Beverly Wilson

Prayer Chant and Selection.....Mass Choir

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Church Welcome.....Hospitality Ministry

Pastoral Comments

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Children’s Hour.....Sis. Joann Robinson

Selection.....Mass Choir

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General Offering of Tithes and Gifts of Love

Mission Offering

**Tithes and Gifts of Love*

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*Response of Thanksgiving.....Congregation

*“All things come of Thee, O Lord,
and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen!”*

Congregational Hymn #81.....“Jesus, the Light of the World”

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Sermonic Meditation.....Organ Speaks

Sermon.....Rev. Marshall L. Barnes

“Outgrow The Crib”

*Invitation to Christian Discipleship.....Rev. Marshall L. Barnes

*Altar Call.....Rev. Marshall L. Barnes

*Benediction.....Rev. Marshall L. Barnes

**Standing*

***Seating Worshippers*