

The Gospel of Matthew #10

WHAT DO YOU GIVE TO A MESSIAH?

Matthew 2:11

“They opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts...”
Joyfully (v10) – lavishly -- meaningfully
Esp. appropriate this Harvest Sunday as we present our pledges

3 gifts mentioned. Why these 3? Each seems to symbolize something significant about Jesus as Messiah:

I. **GOLD**: because He is _____

- A. OT eggs
Genesis 41:42
Daniel 5:7, 29
I Kings 10:14-18, 21-22



B. The magi acknowledged Him as King: 2:2

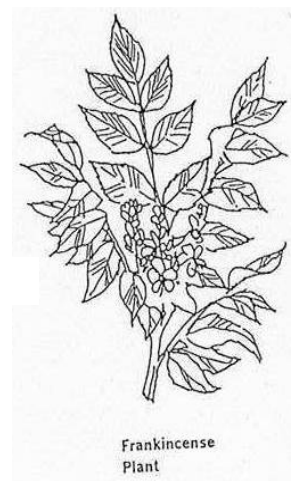
C. You: do you acknowledge Jesus as your king?

Is He worth your finest offerings? Your money? Your pledge?
Your time? Your service?

II. **FRANKINCENSE**: because He is _____

“Frank” incense is **pure** incense, from root meaning
“white”

- A. OT: ingredient in the incense for the worship of
God in the tabernacle: Exod 30:34-38
Used in the meal offerings; never used in sin
offerings
Cf. Luke 1:9-11



B. Conscious or not, this was a declaration of worship of the Holy One

C. Do you appreciate how _____ Jesus is from you? In every way He thinks, and treats people, and loves? His life is God-centered perfection and love incarnate.

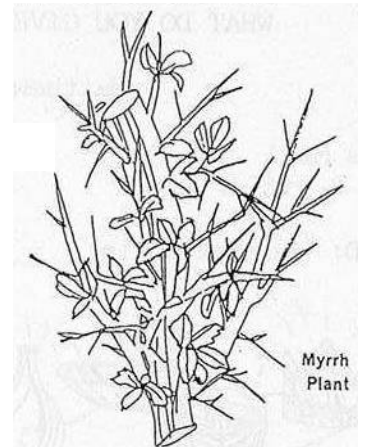
Your giving is an act of **worship**

III. **MYRRH**: because He was born to _____

A. Myrrh was a perfume (eg Song of Songs 3:6; 4:6, 14) used for embalming the dead

B. So tho He is altogether desirable, He will be despised (Isa 53:3) and be executed (Isa 53:4-6): for us!

John 19:39-40: 75 lbs of myrrh & aloes



C. Do you believe that without Jesus' death for you, you are hopelessly lost? That your most generous gift/pledge can never buy you God's favor?

Do you **boast** in the cross as the means of every mercy you enjoy but do not deserve?

How rich is His grace to you and me!

The magi saw these things dimly or not at all, yet they traveled for weeks and spent much money to worship the Baby.

You know so much more of His worth. What is your worship like?