Pastor Brian's Midweek Message January 5, 2022

"WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM?"

"Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." (Matthew 2:2)



Tomorrow is January 6th... Epiphany...the 12th Day of Christmas...Christmas of the Gentiles. It's the day on which the Church celebrates the arrival of the Magi (Kings, Wise Men) in Bethlehem as they come to worship the Newborn King and offer precious gifts. As I drive by churches in the area, I see some have yard signs with the saying "Wise Men Still Seek Him". That's a nice sentiment but I know for a fact that there are a lot of us not so wise men and women who seek Him too! The wisdom of this world rejects the wisdom of God as foolishness and superstition. What that really means is the

wisdom of this world is NOT wisdom by any stretch of the imagination. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. As it is written: "He catches the wise in their craftiness"; and again, "The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile." (1 Corinthians 3:19-20) When you think about it, what these "wise men" did on the surface seems pretty foolish. Upon seeing the Bethlehem star rising in the sky from their position in the east, they look into the ancient writings to determine its significance. They come upon the Books of Moses and find their answer. I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth. (Numbers 24:17) These men, however many there really were, are not Jews. They are pagan mystics, investing themselves in astrology, dreams, magic, sorcery. These are things that are forbidden in the Law of Moses, yet they came. They recognized that God had done something incredible for them, and they wanted above anything else to be part of it. At great cost in time, effort, and wealth they set out for a distant land to worship an unknown King. What motivated them to do it? That would be God Himself, God the Holy Spirit. These men were seeking true wisdom in a world where

wisdom was lacking, much like our world today. God the Holy Spirit draws us to seek Jesus, and to the eternal wisdom that He brings, that He is. The world may mock us for it, but that is the ultimate foolishness, missing out on the salvation that God freely offers in His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus clearly says; *"Everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened."* (Luke 11:10) Those who seek God will find Him, rather to those who seek Him God will reveal Himself to them. Just like the magi who looked into the ancient writings to find the truth of that star, we have ancient writings that reveal all truth to us. *Seek the Lord while He may be found*. (Isaiah 55:6a) That times is right now. Seek the Lord WHERE He may be found! That would be in the ancient writings of His Word, the Holy Scriptures. That's the place we find the Living Word, the Word made Flesh, the way the truth and the life; Jesus, the Christ!