

THE TALE OF TWO KINGS OUR COMING SAVIOR

“In the days of Herod . . .” (Luke 1:5)

“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “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.” When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel” (Matthew 2:1-6).

“Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end. . . . The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God.” (Luke 1:26)

Mary arrived at the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth. She entered. She greeted Elizabeth. Luke writes, *“when Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb.”* (Luke 1:41) Immediate recognition!

Then, Luke writes, the Holy Spirit nudged Elizabeth, and she exclaimed in a loud voice, *“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored that the*

mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.” Luke 1:42-43

HOW DO YOU RESPOND?

The ultimate question is not how someone else responds but how you respond to Jesus.

That’s really the only thing that matters is who are you with?

Herod? _____

The Scribes? _____

The Wise Men? _____

Everybody involved in this miraculous event had the same basic information. They all knew a baby had been born in Bethlehem and they all knew whom the baby was. Herod knew and tried to kill him; the scribes knew and ignored him; the Wise Men knew and worshipped him. If information alone could save you, then even Herod would have been saved. But information alone will not save you. **It is not what you know but what you do with what you know that saves you.**

If you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God from heaven

If you believe that Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah

If you believe that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world

If you believe that Jesus Christ came to save you from your sins

If you believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross in your place

If you believe that Jesus Christ rose from the dead

If you believe that Jesus Christ ascended into heaven

If you believe that Jesus Christ will one day return to the earth as

King of Kings and Lord of Lords

If you believe all of that . . . then do what the Wise Men did. Come with an open heart, bow down before the Lord Jesus and worship Him.

