**Devotion**

Pleasant View Baptist Church ● Scripture: Matthew 2:1-11

**Gifts to the Lord**

 Our scripture is one we are often familiar with during the Christmas season. We learn in verse one that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. The wise men go to King Herod to learn, “Where is he that is born King of the Jews?” Herod was troubled when he learned this news. He wanted the wise men to go out and learn where Jesus was. The wise men depart and when they saw the star in the east they rejoiced with great joy. Verse 11 states when they came to the house, they saw the young child with his mother Mary. The wise men fell down and worshiped him and presented him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. My question today is, “What do our gifts to the Lord look like when we worship?”

 This time of year many of us are involved with countless Christmas parties. Most of us have several events to attend to. Oftentimes, we are guilty of just going through the motions of these events. We want to do little as we can to get by. I know I am guilty of this. As Christians, I think we are sometimes guilty of going through the motions during worship service. We get in such of a routine that we forget the meaning of what we are doing. We sometimes want to get by little as possible. I encourage you when you worship to give God all you have. Let’s use the gifts of our **minds** to learn more about Jesus. Those who know Jesus naturally want to know more about him. Let’s use the gifts of our **voices** to sing his praises, to teach about Jesus, and to testify all that Jesus has done for us. Let’s use the gift of our **ears** to hear his word and to hear his praises. Let’s use our **hearts** to listen to the Lord speak to us that we will do and act as the way he leads us during worship.

 We learn about the great distance and trouble these wise men went to worship Christ. We know the gifts they presented to Him. When we go to worship service we have the opportunity to worship as the wise men did. The best gift one can give to Christ is their life. If you’re saved and born again the next best thing one can give God is obeying his commandments and giving Him worship.

What will our gifts look like when we present them before the Lord?

Adam NeSmith