December 21, 2025 **Pastor Andy McClellan**

Title: "The King is Born"
Series: Beginnings: The Promise Fulfilled
Text: Matthew 2:1-12

1. The "King of the **JEWS**" is the King of the **WORLD**, vv. 1-2 *(see also Genesis 12:3-4; 49:10; Numbers 24:17; 1 Kings 10:1-10; Isaiah 9:6-7; Ezekiel 34:23; Micah 5:2; Colossians 1:15-17; Revelation 11:15).*

2. The King of the world is **TROUBLE** for the **COUNTERFEIT** kingdoms of this world, vv. 3-8, 12 *(see also Psalm 2:1-3; Isa. 11:1-4; Jeremiah 23:5; Zechariah 9:9; Mark 3:23-27; John 12:27-33; Acts 17:6-7; Hebrews 2:14-15; Rev. 17:14; 19:11-16).*

3. The King of the world is **JOY** for those who **SEEK** to worship Him, vv. 9-12 *(see also Psalm 72:10–17; 100:1-2; Isa. 60:6; Matt. 13:44-46; Luke 2:10; Philippians 2:10-11).*

FOR FURTHER STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. What clues in Matt. 2 point us to the arrival of the wise men, not at the birth of Jesus, but up to two years later? Nevertheless, why is their arrival important for the announcement of his birth? Why did they come? How does their inclusion in the story point to Jesus as both the promised son of Abraham and David? How does their journey reveal God's work to exalt His Son throughout the world? How is that an encouragement to us?

2. Why was King Herod "troubled" about the birth of Jesus? Why did he want Jesus killed? Who or what are the modern-day equivalents of King Herod? Why is Jesus's arrival not good news to them? How might this explain the myriad of ways that the real story of Jesus's birth is avoided in so many Christmas celebrations? What opposition do Jesus's followers often face when we try to point people to the "true meaning of Christmas"? Why should we expect that? How are you, as a follower of Jesus who carry the Gospel with you, a threat to Satan's kingdom today (see 1 Peter 5:8-11; Romans 16:20)?

3. While the wise men had to make the journey, how was God responsible for bringing them to Jesus? In vv. 10-11, what were their responses to finally finding Jesus? Why did they offer him gifts? As you think about your own life, how did God draw you to Jesus? Why does the reality of Jesus reigning as king both inspire joy and drive us to want to worship him? What gift can you, as a sinner, offer King Jesus as an expression of your worship and allegiance to him as your king?

4. As you celebrate Christmas with your family, friends, and attempt to share the Good News about the birth of Jesus the King, please let us know if there are ways that we can pray for you. Fill out a Communication Card: https://dcc.breezechms.com/form/CommCard.

NEXT WEEK: Matthew 2:13-23

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