

Sunday, January 4, 2009

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The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60: 1 – 6

Ephesians 3: 2 – 3a, 5 -6

Matthew 2: 1 -12

Today's gospel of Mt 2: 1 -12 is the infancy of Jesus and the visitation by The Wise Men. The Epiphany is the climax of the Advent - Christmas Season and the 12 days of Christmas are counted from the evening of December 25th until the morning of January 6th, which is the Twelfth Day.

The Magi were Gentiles from the East – not Jews. The Wise men thought that all Jerusalem should be pointing the way to the Messiah; however, it was God directing them. But Herod and most of Jerusalem were troubled at the news, because the prophecy written in Scripture (Mic 5: 2) had been fulfilled. *But more importantly, they were troubled by thinking that the Messiahs kingdom would clash with theirs.* Yet Christ only came to enhance their earthly kingdom.

2009 ushers in many serious problems around the world. Almost too many to count! The growing realization is this: what is needed is a new way of looking at things and the model is Christ. It is putting on the mind of Christ, of doing the right thing and acting virtuously. This is the marriage of Spirituality and Morality.

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