***Recap of 12/22/13:***

*1. The events of Matthew 2 happened at least several months after Jesus’ birth, not on the night of His birth as commonly portrayed.*

*-He was in a house not a stable, vs. 11*

*-He was a called “child” (Greek, “paidion”) in vs. 11, not a newborn infant (Greek, “brephos,” Luke 2:12)*

*-Luke 2:21-27 tells us that at Mary’s purification (33 days after circumcision on the 8th day), Joseph & Mary gave a poor family’s offering, and if the Magi had already given their gifts they could not have done that.*

*-Herod’s order to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and vicinity, two yrs. and younger, vs. 16*

*2. Herod’s response of antagonism, hostility and fear, and the religious leader’s response of apathy and indifference have been re-enacted many times through the centuries right up to today. Apathy is as damaging a response as is antagonism.*

*3. The proper response to Jesus is, as with the Magi, adoration, faith and worship.*

*4. The Magi gave themselves first in worship before they gave their gifts.*

*5. “… what God favors us with, we must honor Him with.” (Matthew Henry) The talent, resources, and time God has given us must be given back to Him.*

*6. The gifts of the Magi to Jesus reflected not only His deity but His coming death as well (myrrh was used as a burial spice).*

*7. Isaiah 60:6, speaking of Jesus’ second coming, mentions gold and incense, but no myrrh.*