

Recap of 12/21/25 message by Pastor Joe Ricchuiti
(“O Worship the King”) Matthew 2:1-12:

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, stall or cave as traditions holds vs. 11

-He was called a “child” (Greek, “paidion”) not an “infant” (Greek, “brephos”), vs. 11

-Luke 2:21-27 tells us that at Jesus’ purification (33 days after circumcision on the 8th day) Joseph and 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 hostility and the religious leader’s response of apathy have been re-enacted many times through the centuries right up till today.*

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

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

5. *“...what God favors us with; we must honor Him with.” (Matthe 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).*