

## Guided - The Adventures of the Magi

### Part 2, You 2.013 - Finding and Doing the Will of God

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. (Psalm 19:1 ESV)

Who alone stretched out the heavens and trampled the waves of the sea; who made the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the chambers of the south; (Job 9:8-9 ESV)

#### advent |'ad,vent|

the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event: *the advent of Jesus*.

- ( **Advent** ) the first season of the Christian church year, leading up to Christmas and including the four preceding Sundays.
- ( **Advent** ) In Christian Theology, the coming or second coming of Christ. ORIGIN Old English, from Latin **adventus** 'arrival,' from **advenire**, from **ad-** 'to' + **venire** 'come.'

#### adventure |ad'venCHər, əd-|

an unusual and exciting, typically hazardous, experience or activity: *Their recent adventures before Herod the great in Jerusalem...*

- daring and exciting activity calling for enterprise and enthusiasm: *she traveled the world in search of adventure | a sense of adventure.*
  - [archaic] a commercial speculation.
- verb [ no obj. ] dated  
engage in hazardous and exciting activity, esp. the exploration of unknown territory: *they had **adventured into** the forest.*
- [ with obj. ] dated. put (something, esp. money or one's life) at risk: *he adventured \$3,000 in the purchase of land.*

ORIGIN Middle English: from Old French **aventure** (noun), **aventurer** (verb), based on Latin **adventurus** 'about to happen,' from **advenire** 'arrive.'

### The Adventures of the Magi

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men [ *Magi* ] from the east came to Jerusalem, [2] saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." [3] When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; [4] and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. [5] They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

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[6] ““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.””

[7] Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. [8] And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” [9] After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. [10] When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. [11] And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. [12] And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**(Matthew 2:1-12 ESV)** *Italics added for teaching by Jeff Fuson*

### **Traits of those who get in on what God is up to in the world:**

Wonder / Adventure / Asking Questions / JOY when God Guides / Going / Doing / Risking / Giving Lavishly to Advance the Cause of Christ / Faith / Allows their brain [thinking] to lead them to Jesus

### **Take Home Ideas about Finding and Doing the Will of God:**

He always guides us to bow before Jesus.

No two journeys are ever the same with our incredibly creative God.

Guidance can be extra-terrestrial like Angels and Stars, or He can guide us in dreams & visions, but often it's more like an inner nudge or 'knowing'. Dallas Willard says the the more mature our relationship with God the less we will seek & depend on the super-natural means. We'll shift into knowing and doing as a result of walking with God and knowing His voice and even being guided by his gaze. [ Jesus says that his 'sheep' know His voice and follow Him. John 10:27 ] See also: Psalm 32:8 & I Kings 19:11-12

### **Following God's guidance to celebrate Advent and worship Jesus always leads to adventure!**

#### **Call[s] to Action:**

- What adventure do you sense God calling you into in 2013?
- Who or what could stop you on your way to worship Jesus right now?
- What gifts do you sense God calling you to bring to Jesus?
- Are you willing to take up His adventures as your way of life?
- Have you considered being baptized as a sign that you are joining the adventurous life of a Christ worshipper? [ We have a Baptism coming up on December 23 so email [jeff@PhosChurch.com](mailto:jeff@PhosChurch.com) if you'd like to learn more and possibly get baptized. ]

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