

XMAS - The Gifts = Gold

Matt 2:1-12

2 weeks ago Pastor Dave shared with us the **gift of frankincense** and its correlation to Jesus being our **High Priest**.

Last week Kayla shared with us the **gift of myrrh** and its correlation to Jesus **sacrifice and death**.

Today we are going to look at the **gift of gold** and how it relates to Jesus the **King of Kings**.

Name that King:

- King Kong
- Burger King
- King Cuppa
- BB King
- King Louie
- King Henry
- High King Peter
- King Aragorn
- King Charles
- Symba The Lion King

Let's chat about Gold...

- Archaeological evidence shows that the earliest human interaction with Gold was found in Paleolithic caves - primarily for ornaments and adornments.
- The first mention of gold in the Bible came in Gen 2.
- The first mention of gold being associated with wealth in the Bible came in Gen 13.
- Around 3000 BC Ancient Egypt revered gold as divine (the flesh of the gods) using it primarily for religious artifacts, burial masks and temple decorations.
- When the Jews escaped Egypt they made the tabernacle. The furnishings of the tabernacle were made of gold. The tabernacle represented God's presence among His people.
- Solomon, who built the temple in Jerusalem, overlaid the inner sanctuary with gold - everything was laid with gold.

- Gold was introduced as currency around 700-600 BC in Lydia - modern day Turkey. The **Lydian Lion** is considered the oldest minted coin in the world, with an estimated worth of 2.5 million dollars!
- Gold became associated with royalty in Egypt with the Pharaohs.
- Gold has been linked with Royalty - showing wealth and power. Many cultures believed that gold shown divine selection and authority. Monarchs have been seen as divinely chosen, and have used gold in religious and ceremonial ways. Like in the crowning of Kings and Queens. Gold is believed to have sacred qualities, linking the Monarch to the divine.
- Gold has also been a major driving force in countless conflicts, wars, and conquests.
- Gold was a major reason for America's westward expansion.

Matt 2:2 “Where is the One Who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.”

The Magi - Wise Men came from the far east. They had seen the star in the sky and had studied the ancient texts. So they pack their belonging, their gifts and embarked on the long journey west towards Israel. When they came to Jerusalem they went to find out where the King was to be born. King Herod wanted to know where Jesus was, because he was obviously opposed to this new King. As we know from Jesus days walking this earth, the Jewish priests dismissed Jesus as King. But these Wise Men came to bow and worship Jesus as King.

Num 24:17 - A star will come out of Jacob.

Is 60:3 - Nations will come to Your light, and kings to the brightness of Your dawn.

Matt 2:4-5 - “Where is the Christ to be born?” “In Bethlehem in Judea.”

Mic 5:2 - “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for Me One Who will be ruler over Israel, Whose origins are from old, from ancient times.”

Jer 23:5 - “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King Who will reign wisely

and do what is right in the land.”

Is 9:6-7 - For unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over His Kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

1 Sam 16:13 - Samuel anointed David and the Spirit of the Lord came upon him in power.

2 Sam 2:4 - The men of Judah anointed David King over Judah.

Matt 2:11 - The Wise Men gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Again Gold has been linked with Royalty for a long time.

2 Sam 8 - King David was gifted Gold.

2 Sam 12 - David took crown from the Rabbah King after he defeated them - it was Gold.

1 Kings 10 - Queen of Sheba brought King Solomon large quantities of Gold.

1 Kings 10 - The weight of Gold that King Solomon received yearly was 666 talents, equal to roughly 66,600 pounds.
That is equal to the weight of a medium-sized cargo ship.

1 Kings 10 - Solomon adorned himself and his house with Gold.

1 Kings 10 - Year after year everyone who came to see King Solomon brought him Gold.

Jesus was born into the line of David to be King forever.

Zec 9:9 - King comes riding on a donkey.

Matt 21 - Triumphal Entry - Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey.

1 Tim 6:15 - Jesus is the King of Kings.

Rev 19:16 - On His robe and His thigh is written King of Kings.

An interesting detail about the oldest known coin...

- The Lydian Lion

- A Lion is called the king of the jungle.

- Jesus is called the Lion of the tribe of Judah in Rev 5:5.

This is just another way to see Jesus' Kingship.

People have been drawn to gold forever. Again it means wealth and power.

During the 1800's America was enthralled with the Gold Rush.

- Gold fever took over.
- People went west for the promise of riches.
- Most found pyrite (fools gold) - thinking it was valuable gold, only to find out it was worthless, leading to wasted time and effort.

Just like people during the Gold Rush finding "fools gold", people seek "False Kings". Looking to others or ourselves for purpose and fulfillment. We, as humans, tend to try to "rule" our own lives and in that we set ourselves up as a woefully inadequate "king". We must make a choice to Who we say Jesus is and what we do with Jesus being King, because He is the Only King that give us purpose and fulfillment.

The gift of gold leads us to Jesus Kingship.

Reflection

3 Responses to Jesus as King

1. We can be like Herod and **oppose** Jesus as King.
2. We can be like the priests and **dismiss** Jesus as King.
3. We can be like the Wise Men and **worship** Jesus as King.

As we move into the hustle and bustle of this season let's slow down and make time to worship the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Read together:

For unto us a child is born

Unto us A Son is given

And the government shall be upon His shoulders

And His name shall be called

Wonderful Counselor

The Mighty God, The everlasting Father

The Prince of Peace

And He shall reign forever and ever.

The Gift

Gold ⁷⁹ Au
Precious Metal
Symbol of Kingship
on earth
196.967



Frankincense
Resin from tree
Highly fragrant
Symbol of healing



Myrrh
Resin from tree
Spice for embalming
Symbol of suffering

Matthew 2:1-5

1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem **2** and asked, “Where is the One Who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.” **3** When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. **4** When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. **5** “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:



Matthew 2:6-8

6 ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler Who will be the shepherd of My people Israel.’” **7** Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. **8** He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find Him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship Him.”



Matthew 2:9-12

9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. **11** On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and of frankincense, and of myrrh. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



Name That King



Name That King



King Kong



Name That King



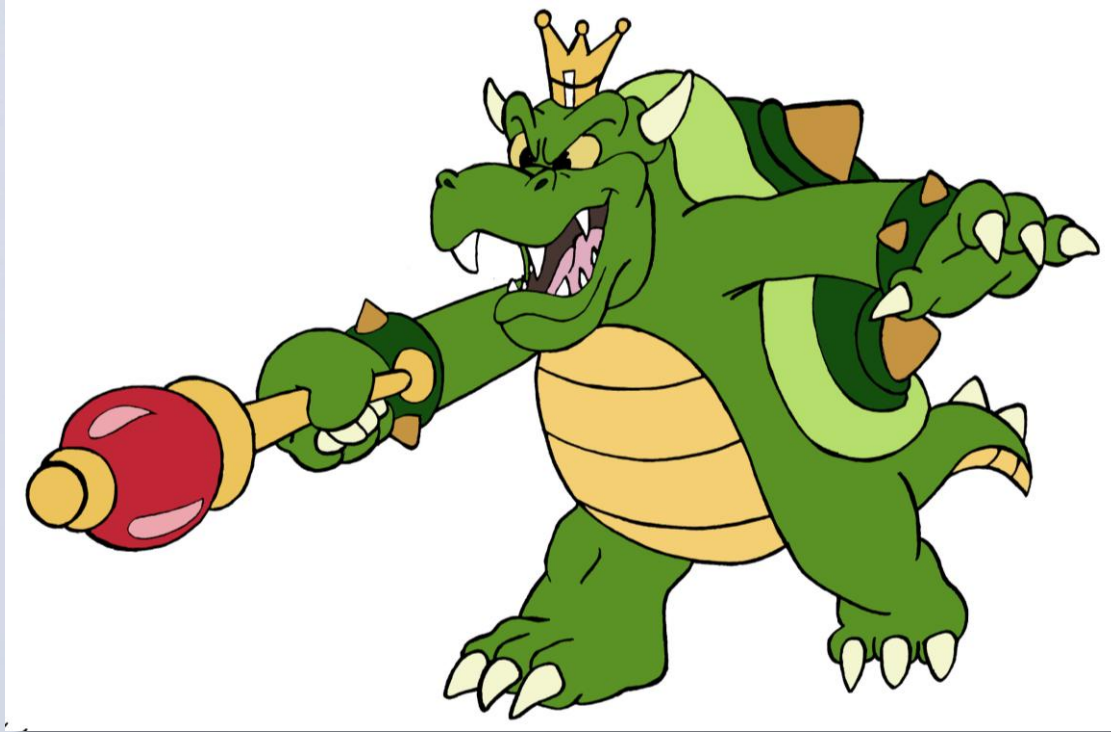
Name That King



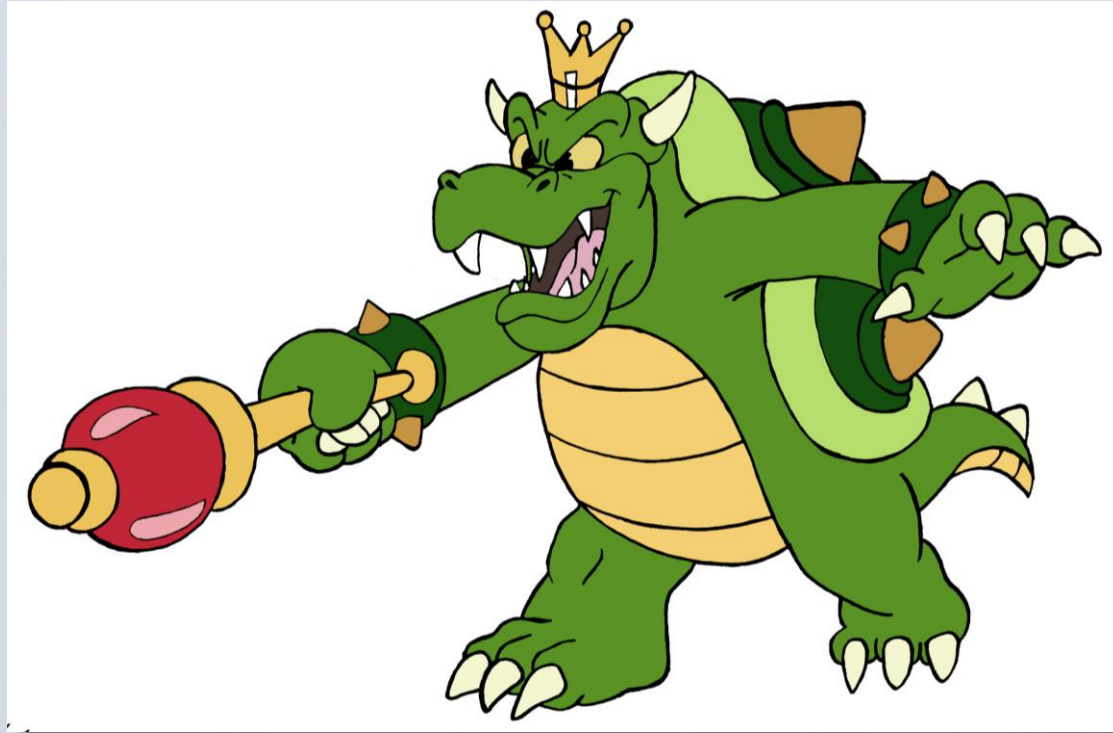
Burger King



Name That King



Name That King



King Koopa



Name That King



Name That King



BB King



Name That King



Name That King



King Louie



Name That King



Name That King



King Henry VIII



Name That King



Name That King



**High King
Peter**



Name That King



Name That King



**King
Aragorn**



Name That King



Name That King



**King
Charles III**



Name That King



Name That King



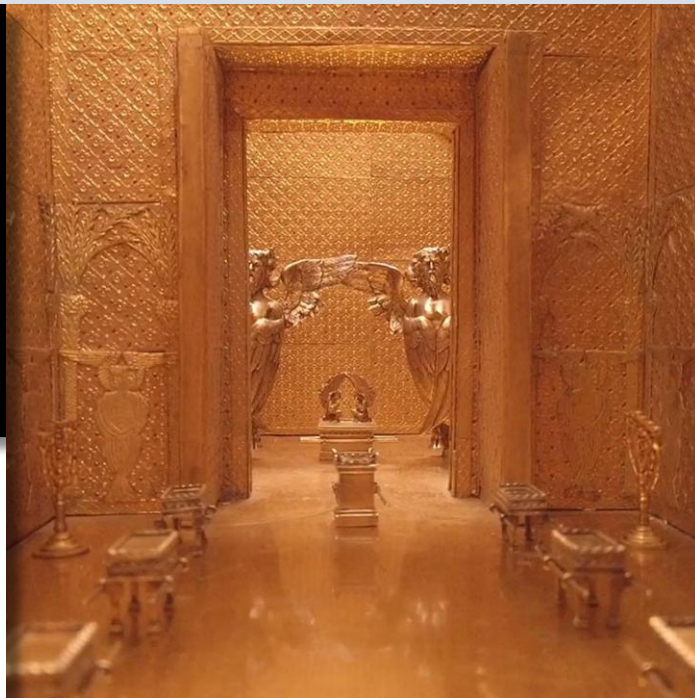
**Simba
The Lion
King**



The Gift



Gold



Matthew 2:2

“Where is the One Who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.”



Matthew 2:4-5

“Where is the Christ to be born?”

“In Bethlehem in Judea.”



Matthew 2:11

The Wise Men gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.



The Lydian Lion Interesting Connection



Fools Gold or Real Gold



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Responsive Reading

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(ALL) And He shall reign forever and ever.

