WHAT ARE YOU GETTING FOR CHRISTMAS?
MATTHEW 2:1-12 / 12-20-20 / AM

I. FIRST, WE SHOULD GIVE MORE THAN WE EXPECT TO RECEIVE.

A. When the wisemen came to see Jesus they knew they weren’t coming to a “gift exchange”—2:1-2 & 11.

B. I’ve heard of situations where hard feelings developed in families—Acts 20:35.

II. SECOND, WE SHOULD GIVE OUT OF LOVE NOT OBLIGATION.

A. Sometimes we give gifts to certain people because they may give us one.

B. The wisemen gave gifts to Jesus, however, not out of obligation.

1. First, their gifts were an act of worship--2:11a.

Matthew 2:11
11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.................

2. Second, their gifts were a natural result of their worship--2:11b.

Matthew 2:11
..............they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts......................

C. Similarly, we should give our tithes and offerings to God for the same reasons--2 Cor. 9:7.

III. THIRD, WE SHOULD GIVE WORTHY GIFTS.

A. At office or church Christmas parties we sometimes play a game called, “White Elephant Gifts” or “Dirty Santa”.

B. These wisemen didn’t give Jesus “White Elephant Gifts”, though.

1. Gold was a gift for a king.

2. Incense was a gift for a priest because it was used in worship.

3. Myrrh, used for embalming, was a gift for someone who would die.

C. Why we give gifts is just as important as what we give.