

His People Whom He Saves from their Sins

2023.09.10 Morning Sermon in Matthew 2:1–11

1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.” 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

6 *‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’*”

7 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.” 9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Main idea: A saving response to Jesus hopes in Him as deliverer, subjects oneself to Him as King, and worships Him as God.

Introduction: the true wisdom not found in expertise in this world but in clinging to the Word of God, with the gospel of God as the main theme, and the Christ of God as its main subject. Such Bible-taught wise men are not astrologists but rather those who see all science and history under the sovereignty of God.

1. Hoping in Jesus as Deliverer

- a. How they would know the timing (Daniel’s weeks of years)
- b. Why they would be interested in the “king” of a tiny Roman district to the west (Daniel’s stone that grows to overcome all other kingdoms)
- c. What this meant for each of them personally (Isaiah, etc.)
- d. What it means for you: finding Jesus should mean everything to you until such time as Jesus means everything to you. Disrupt your life!

2. Subjecting oneself (rejoicingly!) to Jesus as King

- a. The wrong kind of disruption: being disturbed at what you might have to give up.
- b. This Savior is a Ruler. King over your life. King over the church. King over every nation.
- c. Joy to be ruled! The star is not GPS but emblematic of reign. They can't wait to fall down before Him.

3. Worshiping Jesus as God

- a. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh are a mini-tabernacle. They are recognizing Him as "God-with-us"
- b. "their treasures"—the costliness of what is devoted in the act of worship, with its implications for the whole of life.

Conclusion: Consider the faithfulness of God to His promises to save from all the nations. You, even you, must come now by His help to hope in Him, submit to Him, and worship Him!

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

The word of god. Matthew 2 verses 1 through 11. These are God's words. Now, after jesus was born in bethlehem of judea in the days of Herod the king, Behold wise men from the east came to jerusalem. Saying, where is he who has been born king of the jews?

For we have seen his star in the east. And have come to worship him. When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled. And all jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes the people together, Being he inquired of them where the christ was to be born.

So they said to him in bethlehem of judea, For us, it is written by the prophet, but you bethlehem in the land of judah. Are not the least among the rulers of judah. Proud of you shall come a ruler? Who will shepherd my people? It's real. Then Herod when he had secretly called the wiseman, determined from them, what time, the star had appeared.

And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, go and search carefully for the young child. And when you have found him, bring back word to me. That i may come and worship him also. When they heard the king, they departed. And behold the star, which they had seen in the east went before them.

Till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, They saw. The young child. With Mary, his mother. And fell down and worshiped him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to him.

Gold. Frankincense. And myrror. Amen, the sends this reading. Of god's inspired, and Inherentworth. We rejoice that he Adds his blessing to the preaching of it. Please be seated.

Now, after jesus was born in bethlehem of judea and the days of Herod, the king, behold, wise men, From the east came to jerusalem. And perhaps you have heard the term magi. From the east. And indeed, these were men who were considered Who are from a class of men that would have generally been considered, magicians, sorcerers.

Those who had. Had achieved a certain amount of knowledge and experience and skill in In the knowledge of the world, what we would call science Although, Uh, the further you get from a believing culture in which, you know, the god of providence science becomes a form of sorcery as well.

And then those who, Appear to have made some advancement in In spiritually, gained knowledge or power. Uh, you might think, for instance, A good example would be the magicians of pharaoh's court who Uh, yes. There are some things that they could have done. Uh, the, you know, in the manipulation of natural things to give Illusion of some things but almost certainly some of what they did was in fact demonic.

As well. That is not these magi. These magi have come from the east. Uh, because There is a king. Born to a tiny, little people group that. Yeah. Irritates Rome, every once in a while. Uh, but As far as world politics, and And world military dynamics and so forth.

Goes Are really quite insignificant. And they have come from the east. To submit to. And worship. The king of the jews. Not Herod, of course. And so, When the wise men from the east come to jerusalem and say, where is he, who has been born king of the Jews?

For we have seen his star in the east, they are revealing not that they are what we would call astrologists. Guys who overreact to everything that they see in the night sky. That definitely was something that it still is something today. When i was a little, uh, when i was a little boy children, Um, There was there were these things called newspapers that would be delivered.

Dialysis, And in the days before the internet, if you cared about baseball or basketball or or something like that, you would You would, you know, get the newspaper first thing in the morning, and you'd open the sports section and you'd see who won and who lost and you know, who is leading in what statistical categories.

But then on the back page of the sports section at least in the In the paper that we got growing up. They always had these, you know, zodiac astrology. Um, predictions and readings and things those utter nonsense. And yet. Uh, People being susceptible. To debased mind and demonic influence.

Uh, there's Much, that one could be manipulated into thinking and doing by those things. These guys. Are actually right. And, A tiny little. Roman district. With a baby king matters. Enough to them to come why? Because they have achieved true wisdom. Two wisdom is not found an expertise in this world.

This definitely not found in tapping into spiritual things, blindly Which is just a recipe for coming under the power of demons. True wisdom is found in clinging to the word of god. And true

wisdom is found in knowing that in the word of god, the great theme. Is the gospel of god that he is saving sinners.

That he who created all things with man-made in his image. And then man had sinned against him. His determined to redeem from among those sinners to redeem for himself to save for himself a multitude. From every tongue and tribune nation. Through a promised seed of the first woman, there were promised offspring of a man named abraham who had been a chaldean.

But from whom came a tiny little nation called israel. Who had a king named david in their heyday? And from that, king's line was going to come another king. And yet, israel sinned. So greatly against god. Just as god told them that they were going to do in the book of Deuteronomy.

That he had exiled them. And he had caused not just the the northern kingdom to be scattered by the Assyrians. But the southern kingdom judah. Uh, where Bethlehem is now? To be exiled to Babylon. And one of the israelites, one of the judeans, Who is exiled to Babylon was a man named daniel.

And he had become a truly wise man. He had become one of these great men who was esteemed to have knowledge and skill and he was, he was a king's counselor first in the Babylonian empire and then in the Persian empire. And he had taught. He had taught about this redeemer.

And he had taught. From the book of jeremiah. And she was still paying attention to, and you remember when the time of the exile was about to come to an end, he knew Because he treated the book of Jeremiah as the word of god. Holy scripture, even though it was written during his own lifetime.

Yet by the spirit. He recognized the word of god as the word of god. And he taught and wrote his own book. And in his book, And in his visions and in his teaching, There were all of these kingdoms that were represented, these empires that were represented in various ways.

But there is also a stone, a little stone. Put a little stone. That would become a great mountain. And replace all those kingdoms history is not about Assyria. Then Babylon. Than Persia. Than Greece. Then Rome. These these men from the east they've known for centuries. That persia Greece Rome was coming.

Because god had told them through daniel. But they had hoped for centuries. In the promised kingdom. That would begin as the little stone. And that would replace and overcome all of the other kingdoms and empires and it doesn't matter who looks like, he's a, a great, and mighty golden warrior.

Or clay, but if you're infatuated with yourself, you make the whole thing gold. It doesn't matter who seem to be in power that stone that was the kingdom. That would last And it's king. He is the one who had be king of kings and lord of lords forever. And ever.

And so, true wisdom was not found an expertise in this world. Even if a man could be the science. He is not the science and it's not true wisdom. True wisdom is clinging to the word of god with the gospel of god as the main theme and the christ of god as its main subject.

So that these Bible taught with wise, men were not astrologists. But they did real science and real history because they saw god the creator as the god of providence, and it's his faithfulness, and this world, that makes things repeatable, and observable, and entrust in him and submission to him.

You learn how to respond well and wisely to employ. Well, what he had made you take dominion over all of the earth. That's the proper use of science. And they saw him not just his sovereign over all the creation but sovereign over all of history. So that when they in there, in their observation of things and earth and and in the skyes, They saw this great anomaly.

Their conclusion was that the god who rules over the created heavens. Is the same god who rules over history? And that, for which they had hoped had come. Now, one of the reasons that they That they knew to hope in jesus as the deliverer. One of the reasons that they knew to hope in jesus as the deliverer at this time is because Daniel's prophecy also included weeks of years.

It included something of a calendar as it were. And so for centuries these men who had been instructed their their families and and their knowledge being passed down clinging to the word of god, taught to hope for a kingdom, that would come from israel. They knew approximately what time to be looking for the appearance of the christ.

And they knew that the god of science is the god of history. They had. They had comparatively. Uh, Less of the bible. Certainly to what we have probably to what these chief priests and and scribes have daniel lived after mica. We don't know if they just didn't have a copy of the book of mica or perhaps, they knew.

That it would be in Bethlehem. But they just assumed that it took them so long to get here that everyone would know where the king was already. And so they stop and ask Herod, we don't know. But one of the things that we see, then, In this passage. Is that jesus's name is coming true, not with respect to ethnically descended Israel.

But with respect to a spiritual israel that yes does include Many who are descended from jacob. But it includes spiritual descendants even. Among these people from the east. And as we'll continue in the book of matthew, Until we get to the end and what we call the great commission.

Um, those whom jesus is saving, he can't. He's you shall call his name jesus because he came to save his people from their sins. Are the israel of promise? The israel of election. The israel who would be brought to faith. In jesus christ. And there's a stark contrast here that When it says, he will save his people from their sins, Does it mean Herod and al Jerusalem?

Does it mean the chief price priests in the scribes? Or. As the holy spirit presents us with in the passage, immediately following that. It doesn't mean those who god brings, To a right response. To the lord jesus christ. That's the his people. That he is saving from their sins.

Whom god brings to a right response. To the lord jesus christ. So, those whom God brings to hoping in jesus as deliverer. Much of which we have already begun to see and think about and hear about those whom god, brings to subjecting themselves, rejoicingly, To jesus as king. Those who god brings to worshiping jesus as god.

How can you tell? Him. The lord is saving or has saved. The hope in jesus as their deliverer. They subject themselves to jesus as their king. They worship jesus. As their god. So first hoping in jesus says their deliverer, we've already mentioned, how they would know the timing and why they would be interested in the king of a tiny roman district to the west.

Uh, you know, it wasn't just jews who resented roman rule. Nobody likes to be ruled except for the blessed people and point two of our sermon. Those who submit themselves rejoicingly to

jesus's king but it's completely contrary to our nature. To enjoy being ruled by somebody else. And so, Um, So, these would not just Want.

To belong to the king who is represented by the stone and Daniel's vision. Um, Or rather in the prophecy in the book of daniel. Uh, They they would not just want to belong to him to be delivered from being ruled by rome. They would want to belong to him, to be delivered, from being ruled by themselves or their own nation.

Uh, if our hope is that the united states Will somehow last forever. Then we are missing the point of the vision. Every every kingdom on earth, every nation on earth is a vassal state of one of two kingdoms. In revelation, it's It's in the singular in both cases, the kingdom of this world and i know many of your english translations.

Have it in the plural. The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom. Of our lord, the kingdom of the lord jesus christ. And so either, your kingdom, your nation is intentionally submitted to the lord, jesus christ or The kingdom or the nation. Is a vassal state of the kingdom of satan.

Those are the only two options. They're only two kingdoms, And the kingdoms of this world, generally speaking, the nations that rage and the kings and peoples, the plot and vain they belong to the kingdom of rebellion, the belong to the kingdom of the devil. Would that the lord does bring reformation and revival to our land to our nation?

And such that our nation would not even hope to last forever. But would rejoice to be a vassal state of the kingdom of king, jesus until he returns. And gladly yield its sovereignty. At that point. And so, they're hoping in jesus as deliverer from Rome. They're hoping in jesus as deliverer from self because self never actually rules.

If you think your autonomous, if you think you're ruling yourself, As opposed to being ruled by christ, you really are being ruled by your flesh and by the devil, aren't you? And so they're hoping in jesus as their deliverer. And they knew. For instance, from the book of isaiah, That this new king that came to israel.

Was not just for the salvation of israelites. Now, we can't now go back over the entire first, third of isaiah that we have been through And if you hadn't been making use of the Hopewell's at home or or listening along with the the posting of the teaching audio, I'll do my best to summarize but basically god has made his case against israel that what he had called them out and commanded them to be and done for them.

That they would be they have not been and so he is going to bring them a judgment. And the only answer to that judgment is going to be a new promised king. And by the time you get to the end of the book of book of isaiah, you find that the promised king himself is the servant that isaiah was supposed to have been and that the promised king himself gathers all nations.

Did i say as m and israel, israel was supposed to have been and the promised king himself as the one who gathers all nations into himself being more. More than just the light that israel was supposed to be to the nations, but had failed to be, he not only is a light and an indicator to them but he gathers them all in to himself, but in the short term, The, the Northern kingdom, we call it aphrem for simplicity.

Let's we mix up the word israel. Or Samaria by its capital city, the that the the northern kingdom. And the southern kingdom were both going to end up being judged. We're both going to end up being devastated. And there are all these little introductions of the king in the section.

That's dealing primarily with israel and judah. But then he's starts turning to the other nations. Just like we heard about Babylon and eden and Arabia. Trusting in themselves. And and we've heard about a syria and the Moabites And, Egypt and in almost every one of those sections. There's some indication.

Sometimes it's a small one, sometimes it's a big one. Like in the section for moab and the section for agent that when the king comes, there will be Moabites who are going to be joined to god's people and in covenant with god as part of his church and israelites and egyptians and asians together as children of god in his church, And so, there is this deliverance that is coming.

But it's also a deliverance. That even if your nation. Or your church doesn't participate in it corporately. The lord gives each one of us to to abandon trust Himself and to trust only in him. And next week's portion in isaiah chapter, 22. The lord is going to return to addressing israel.

And, One of the one of the things that he does at the end of the chapter after he condemns them for hoping in themselves and hoping in their wall and hoping in the geography and hoping in their water supply and hoping in their armory. And he's going to devastate them.

But then, he picks two men. Shed. Not the the scribe and alia came who is over the house. And shabna described was one of these self-sufficient sort of, guys, And he condemns shedna. But aliakim, even in the midst. Of this decline in judah. He had been a faithful man and the lord was going to give aliyah Kim.

Um, sadness place. And it reminds us that that which we see on the macro scale, Abandoning trust himself and hoping in christ alone, hoping in the lord alone that that is the hope of nations. That it applies on the microscale. That it must be the hope of people individuals.

And that even if god has appointed to you to live in a time when the nation is coming under judgment, Or in a time and place where your particular church is coming under judgment. And we see this and christ's letters to the churches in, in revelation 2 and 3 that even in churches that are going to be disciplined.

There will be individuals who respond that That the lord brings through it faithfully and are not going to participate in the, in the judgment on the church that is losing its lamb scene. That even if the lord has called you and appointed for you to live in a time and place where there is going to be judgment generally, Alia came doesn't save judah.

He's a secure peg. On the wall in the image in isaiah 22, but he gets yeah. And, and a bunch of weight gets hung on him, but peg and wall and all are going to come down altogether by. By the end. Of the chapter, even if the lord gives you to live in that sort of a time.

You still have opportunity duty call invitation, pleading from the word of god. That you would hope in christ alone as your deliverer. That you would be like these magi from the east who have heard about the king, whose kingdom, even if it takes hundreds of years, even if it's beleaguered by by a Syria, and Babylon and Persia, and Greece and roam, and the so-called holy Roman empire, and The papacy and the british empire and the american empire.

And whatever is Yeah. Happening now. That this stone will be a kingdom that overcomes them all and fills the world and you will hope in him and you will serve him. Even if you're the only ones, In your age, doing it. And in your place doing it. Finding jesus must mean everything to you.

Needs to mean everything to you. Until such time, as Jesus means everything to you. Herod and all Jerusalem were troubled. But these men their whole life was disrupted, wasn't it? They see this. They see the star. And they. And they compare to what they have learned from Daniel, they put everything on hold.

To go and find. The Lord Jesus Christ and so must you, if he doesn't mean everything to your life. If you aren't willing to put everything on hold for him, if belonging to him, worshiping him knowing him serving him doesn't determine the place of everything else in your life.

Is not like Christ's the the king, the one about whom all creation and all time and all history can be compartmentalized for you. That you have your life as you basically want it and then you find the place to fit. The Lord Jesus Christ. No. He is. The King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

He's the only deliverer from being ruled by others or by ourselves. He is God, whom we must worship and until such time, as he means everything to you. And everything else you're doing in your life is because of him and a gift from him and an assignment forehead. Until such time, as that is the case for you.

Then you need to make seeking him and finding him and belonging to him, the great priority of your life. Even this night, your life may be taken from you. And if you do not have Christ, The way those who are his people who he saves from his sins, have Christ, You will lose everything.

So first, hope you're hope in Jesus. As you're delivering the second place. Subject yourself rejoicingly to Jesus's gain.

Herod and All Jerusalem. Our troubled. In verse 3. Herod, of course, and We suspect and find eventually the old Jerusalem. Are really joined with him in this. There are troubled about Jesus because of what they might have to give up. For her. And it's obvious he he's called the king several times in the passage just to make it more clear if we hadn't missed it.

But Herod is troubled that he might have to give up being king. Here are some who are coming to be delivered from being their their own king and that's what Herod has troubled that he might have to give up. How many have been kept? From coming to the Lord, Jesus Christ for deliverance, because they are unwilling to come to the Lord Jesus Christ as their king and as their Lord.

They wonder what what they might have to give up in their lives. Even that isn't sinful just to make room for belonging to the Lord Jesus Christ. Mean, those people who for him, Jesus is everything to him there fanatical. They give an entire day every week. Just to him.

And morning and evening. Every day and their family, their family is more likely to not to eat for a day than to not worship for a day. Yeah, do you imagine if we had to do all of that? All the things we couldn't do. And if we decided to to to give not just 10 percent, Or 27 percent.

As you know, after all of the ties and stuff in the old testament, you probably ended up paying um But as much as Christ having come frees me to cheerfully get him. Can you imagine all the things that I couldn't afford? And then there are some things. Some things that their Bible teaches are sinful.

That I couldn't have at all. Give up my own personal autonomy. Consider myself a slave for the rest of my life. Never mind the fact that someone who isn't a slave to Christ is still a slave. There's no such things, a non-slave.

But, How many have been kept from? Subjecting themselves to Jesus's king because you're afraid of what you might have to give up. How many even believers professors of faith in the visible church have been kept from reformation and growth, and revival, and joy, and love and service. A life that they would look back on and say, behold what the Lord did in me.

And even. To my astonishment through me. And they've been kept from that. Because of what they might have to give up. No, this savior is a ruler. We even reminded that by the quote from Micah, but you Bethlehem and Judea in the land of Jude are not least among the rulers of Judah.

For out of you shall come a ruler. Who will separate that's more of a ruling term than a priestly term, for instance, in the book of Ezekiel and so forth who will shepherd My people. Israel. And so they are coming to subject themselves. To the king. And we can see how happy they are about it.

When they hear the king verse, oh, Parrot knows what he should do. As many of us do and he Uh, he at least gives lip service to the To the response that they might expect. Um, he says to them Um, He sent them to Bethlehem and said, go search carefully for the young child.

When you have found him, bring him work, bring backward to me that I may worship him. Also that I may At least that. That word means reverence bala prostrate themselves subject himself to him. As king. This is what you do with the king of kings. You must be ruled by him.

Jesus did not come. To free you from feeling badly about yourself, so that you could get on with enjoying life as you have determined, you want it to be. No, the savior is a ruler. He must be king of your life. If a church is to be a true church, you must be kingdom over the church.

If a nation is to be a true nation, he must be king over that nation. The idea that you can have an agnostic state, is a falsehood. You either have a Christian state or a satanic state.

And the idea that you can have an autonomous life as a falsehood, You either have a Christ-ruled life for a satanic life. A man who is living for himself, who is not a subject of King Jesus. Whatever other outward conformity. He has to a morality that probably came to him as the cultural descendant of Christianity to begin with.

Whatever, outward conformity, he has. Does not make him. A decent man. At best, it makes him And otherwise, decent slave of the devil. And how can the phrase? Otherwise decent. Perfume, that swine. Not that the person himself is a swine. But you get the idea. Believe. You'll use the phrase putting lipstick on a pig.

Man, if it's a pig of unbelief, the lipstick of outward. Decency is not really an improvement.

But look at how they feel. How does that make you feel? Mr. Magi to be ruled By the Lord Jesus, they hear of the king, they depart and behold the star, which they had seen in the east. It did not lead them all the way to Jerusalem. This is not like astronomical well, I guess that would be GPS, you know, galactic positioning system.

You know, where they They see the star and follow it and then they come out from Herod and oh, the stars there again we can follow. No, they already knew where they're going. The star appears and goes in front of them confirming. That what they had believed about the birth of the king and the identity of the king and the kingdom of the king, and the outcome of that kingdom was true.

We're not rejoicing that, you know, they got a for those of you who really old a triple-a trip tick. To take them to the house of Mary and Joseph and Jesus. The rejoicing that the god of the universe has sent the king of kings. And they. Are about. To meet him.

Being corrected on that idea, that really helps us understand verse 10. Because, you know, I've been Yeah. Yeah, I've taken a wrong turn before not known exactly where I was going. Or whatever. But this this reaction in verse 10 is over the top, isn't it? When they saw the star.

They rejoice. With exceedingly great joy. These are just said, when they saw the star, they were glad and they went inside the house. You get what the Holy Spirit is doing here. Do you get what he is saying to you and to me about the opportunity to fall on our face.

That's what their rejoicing with exceedingly great joy about The opportunity to fall on their face. And when they had come into the house, they saw that young child with Mary, his mother and fell down. And worshiped him. He can't even stand. He has to be held by his mama.

And they refused to stand. And fall down. They are so exceedingly, glad to be ruled By this baby. And his mother's eyes. Are you glad to be ruled? By the Lord Jesus Christ. Are you glad to fall on your face? Every time you realize, you've fallen back again, into living for yourself and trusting in earthly, resources, and enjoying earthly pleasures, apart from trusting in Christ, and enjoying in, and he brings you back.

And maybe even literally physically, but at least spiritually you fall on your face again before King Jesus. And you're remember who you're protected by and you remember who your ruled by that, he is your king. Do you rejoice with exceedingly, great joy to be ruled? Because here, the Holy Spirit says, That's what it looks like.

When he saves you from your sins. Because you're one of his people. Oh, may we joy? Who may we rejoice? To be ruled. Not just rejoicing to be ruled but worshiping him as God. And the way to God. When they had opened their they fell down, they worshiped him.

That we had said before that, that That word can sometimes be reverence or homage to a king? But what happens in the rest of verse 11 takes the mere kingly. Worship. Um, out of the out of the picture this is worship of him who is God? And in whom they have God, And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to him.

Gold. Frankincense. And my You know, Daniel loved the temple worship. He loved the ceremonial law, the sacrificial system. You remember when the Angel comes to Daniel. And he's And he's praying. Or his just finished praying. And praise that wonderful prayer of confession of sin. Because the time that had been written in the book of Jeremiah was just about up, You remember what time of day?

The angel comes, how Daniel was still keeping time the time of the evening sacrifice. There hadn't been a temple injurism for 70 years. Therein been in an evening sacrifice for 70 years. Last time he saw it, he was a little boy and now he's in probably his 80s. And he's still keeping time by the morning and evening sacrifices.

Why? Because he knows what you know if you've been attending and sitting under or at least listening to the recordings of the evening sermons through Leviticus. That these sacrifices that tabernacle at first and then temple later was God, dwelling among his people bringing them near through blood of atonement and sacrifices that ascend to him or give the picture of ascension to him from the earth.

So that god comes near to us by by tabernacular temple and he brings us up near to him by the sacrifices. Before the lord jesus came and the word became flesh and tabernacled among us so that he is our Emmanuel, god with us. God had communicated that principle god with us by means of the tabernacle by means of the temple.

And as those of you who have sat through the leviticus or worked through the Leviticus material, no, Three. Great features. The things that took what was a picture of eden. Was a, you know, that's pomegranate and trees and communion with god. But made it a hybrid with heaven. The gold.

That overlaid everything. The incense. That was continually going up on that altar of incense. Communicating to them. God always listening to them their prayers always coming before him the oil. Which finds? It's parallel here in the murr, which is a perfumed oil. That was applied to everything. So that God would give them a picture of his life and theirs joined in pleasantness.

This wasn't just dudes from the east bringing, you know, the the eastern commodities. To offer them to a western king. This was tabernacle worship of a baby. Because as we just heard and last week's passage He is named yahweh saves. Because he will save his people from their sins.

In order to fulfill. What was spoken by the lord through the prophet who said they shall call his name? The manual.

And so here are three things. Do they describe you rejoice? Do they don't cry out for grace. It's the holy spirit who gives them. Three things that identify his people whom he is saving from his sins. From their sins. Sorry, i keep doing that. The identify his people whom he is saving from their sins.

He gives them to hope in jesus. As their deliverer. He gives them to subject themselves, rejoicingly to jesus. As their king. He gives them. To worship jesus. As their god. For hundreds of years. The lord and his covenant faithfulness, to this line of believers from the east. Had been hoping.

For jesus. God. There's faithful to his promise. To save a multitude from all the nations. Now, you whatever nation you're from. Even you must come now by his help. To hope in him. Submit to him. And worship him. Oh man, let's pray.

Oh lord. We thank you and praise you. That you have not left us. To be in bonded. Either to the nations of this world. Or to ourselves, which is bondage to the devil. We praise you, and thank you. For giving us the lord jesus to deliver us from our sins from ourselves.

And we thank you that you have given him to us as king. That we might be defended and protected that we might be subjugated by Edmund ruled by him, grant that it would be. So by your spirit, At grant that we would rejoice to have it. So, And give us to worship the lord jesus to know him.

As god. And to know him as God, the sun in whom you o lord. Have not only come to dwell with us. But have given us now in him to ascend. To dwell with you. Grant that, whatever treasure we have. We would be willing to employ it. In the service of him whom we worship.

And grant that your spirit would continue to shape our minds and hearts and lives. According to this portion of your word, we ask In jesus name. Amen.