

THE WISE MEN AND CHRIST.

"Where is He that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east and are come to worship him." And lo, the star, which they saw 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 exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him; and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. The above Scriptures reveal the attitude of the wise men towards Jesus. Though they inquired in Jerusalem where he was to be born they were dependent on the Spirit of God.

Jesus and his parents they made known abroad the saying concerning this child." Dr. Adam Clarke says "the angels were the first preachers of the gospel." The shepherds followed their example, and doubtless the wise men preached Christ in the country.

We do not know what human moral elements God saw in Bethlehem, "the inn" included. Doubtless there was hatred of the Romans, especially Caesar Augustus because he had imposed taxes on the Jews; but if any save the shepherds heard angels sing, and if any save the seers from the east and the shepherds worshipped Jesus it is not recorded. The wise men had eyes for stars; the shepherds had ears for the song of angels. They saw marriage at its best—was wedlock ever held more sacred; and did greater benediction ever rest upon its offspring? They saw a king who had been born of woman, and who was a prophecy that every Spirit-born soul is kingly. Yea, all such are kings and priests unto God." Jesus was Spirit-born that we might be born of the Spirit. He said: "except ye be born of the Spirit ye cannot see the kingdom of God." He was baptized with the Spirit that we might be baptized with the Holy Ghost. He came to save us to sanity

and purity. He is God's best thought in manhood and divinity revealed in manhood. He is "God manifest in the flesh." It is late in the day to prove or disprove His matchless splendor. Holy writ has proven him to be a "wonderful counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace." Thank God, history has confirmed the verdict of Holy writ; and Jesus' own Church is, in spite of its faulty members, a living proof of His mighty power to save. We may well pray with the poet in his prayer hymn:

"O thou whose infant feet were found
Within thy Father's shrine,
Whose childhood, manhood, age and death
Were all alike divine.

Dependent on Thy bounteous breath
We seek Thy grace alone
In childhood, manhood, age and death
To keep us still Thine own."

A modern divine says: "Jesus has the key to every situation." He has "the keys of death and hell." He also has the key of life; and he entered that life through holy womanhood. The story of the babe of Bethlehem exalts holy marriage and childhood. Rightly applied to life it would banish plural marriage, companionate marriage, and all plague spots in wedlock. Fleshly orgies, life prevention, ante-natal murder, and flaunted shamelessness would disappear. The Temple of man and womanhood would be sacred to God's uses. "Know ye not that your bodies are the temple of the Holy Ghost? Spirit births carry their own potentialities. Holy dawns would usher souls into God's day with His thought and heartbeat toward humanity incarnate in them. He who denies a right start is possible through Jesus is akin to those who scorn holy living. A modern divine says: "Doctors of divinity fence us out from preaching holiness to men in life; and doctors of medicine fence us out when they (men) are dying." There is a generation but it is not a chosen generation." There is a priesthood, but it is not "a royal priesthood;" there is a peculiar people, but they have peculiarly little ideas. They do not aspire to Christlikeness, though we may be as truly prayerful and loving as He was. Lowell says:

"We are all tall enough to reach God's hand,
and angels are no taller."

We have just passed the Christmas season. If we came to Christ in the spirit in which the shepherds and wise men came we have been truly enriched in soul. All days and gifts are bare without Him. Preaching Christ and the power of His cleansing blood Paul said: "As poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing and yet possessing all things." We rejoice that the Spirit of Christ permeates Christmas as far as it does. It makes us akin in spirit to the seers of old who saw "his star," and saw Him who is the same yesterday, today and forever." Thank God! Amen!

B. T. GASKIN

Rev. Gilbert Laite, well known to many readers of the King's Highway, recently concluded a successful series of revival meetings in the First Evangelical Church, Lowell, Mass. He preached with power the gospel of the Son of God. He stands four square for the fundamentals of pardon and holiness.

An especially gracious work was done

among the young people, a number of whom entered into the joy of salvation. The church has been greatly quickened and it is trusted that the revival is but the beginning of mighty things for the City of Lowell.

Rev. Laite with his humble, Christ-like spirit, with his affectionate earnestness, and with a tremendous devotion to his work, is the ideal evangelist.

Miss Helen Emery, of Fort Fairfield, Me., assisted in the singing and was a real factor in the meeting's success. This consecrated young woman, with a personality winsome with the indwelling Christ, made ineffaceable impressions on the minds of those who heard her sing, testify and pray at the altar services.

Rev. Laite will be in Maine early this spring and has two open dates for that state or for the Maritime Provinces. These dates are the last two weeks of March and the first two weeks of April. Pastors desiring his services then should write him at once at 12 Upland Road, Everett, Mass. I recommend him unqualifiedly.

E. WAYNE STAHL,
Pastor of First

Evangelical Church,
Lowell, Mass.

THE CHRISTIAN'S COMMISSION

Go ye forth and preach the gospel
Go to every darkened land;
Go and tell them of the Saviour;
This is just the way He planned.

They are dying by the thousands,
With no hope beyond the grave;
Going down in sin and sorrow,
Precious souls He died to save.

Go ye forth and tell the story,
To the souls in heathen night,
How he died to save and pardon
All who come with heart contrite.

They are waiting in their darkness,
Longing for the bread of life,
With no hope of life eternal,
Going on in sin and strife.

Go ye forth and teach all nations,
Was the Saviour's great command;
Take the message of salvation,
And your Master by the hand.

Go ye forth and He'll go with you,
Go to every land and clime;
He has promised you His presence
To the very end of time.

Can't you hear their cry of anguish?
Will you give yourself today?
If you cannot go to teach them,
You can stay at home and pray!

God has promised He will answer;
Don't you ever be afraid;
And in Heaven you will meet them,
Precious souls for whom you've prayed.

Christian, don't you hear them calling?
Give to Him your all today;
And God from His throne will answer,
Save the heathen far away.

ALICE M. LEWIS

This poem may be used as a song to the tune, "The Heavenly railroad," using either of the last two verses as a chorus.—The Author.