



## Jesus Over Everything Matthew 2

Throughout our Christmas Series this December we have seen the significance of the birth of Jesus as King. His coming, foretold for centuries, reveals Jesus' reign over Satan, over history, over Caesar, and over everything.

The revolution of Jesus' kingdom was not carried out through acts of aggression against earthly oppressors, but through ultimate sacrificial love to rescue and redeem us from the domain of sin and death. He loves each of us and knows best what we each need. Therefore, He seeks to lead us in our lives. Below are three choices each person can make in responding to Jesus.

### **Herod: response of a fearful heart** Matthew 2:2-3

*"Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.' When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled..."*

Herod feared losing...

- His position as king of his own life.
- His prestige where his pride is built up as people like the Magi look to him.
- His power to control his own life and be self-sufficient.
- His possessions because if Christ is his king he fears what he may lose or give up.

### **Religious leaders: response of a fake heart** Matthew 2:4-5

*"Gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for this is what has been written by the prophet"*

- They knew what the scriptures said about Jesus but did not trust Him.
- They had a background of religious training but did not follow Jesus.
- They knew the truth about Jesus but did practice what they knew to be true.

### **Magi: response of a faith-filled heart** Matthew 2:10-11

*"When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."*

- They did not have all the answers but were willing to seek them and learn more about Jesus.
- They remained teachable and responded to the level of truth made known to them.
- They were rewarded with a rich personal connection with Jesus so they joyfully gave their best to Him.



## A prayer to make Jesus King of your life:

*“God, I know that I have sinned against you and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus is Lord who came to live a perfect life, die as payment for my sins and rose from the dead to bring freedom, restoration and eternal life to all who believe. I do not have all the answers, but help me to learn from Christ as He leads and guides. Please remove any fear or uncertainty I may feel about the circumstances of my life as I look to Christ as my Rescuer and Ruler. From now on, help me to follow You daily, turn from my sin and live in step with Your Holy Spirit according to the Bible. May I find great pleasure and joy in serving You as I fully place my life in Your hands for the purpose of Your Kingdom and Glory. Amen”*

## Highlights of ways to grow in your faith in 2017 as we follow Jesus together:

### Sunday Mornings

Join us for Sunday morning worship to build your trust in God and His reign over every area of life. We'll have a special One Service Sunday to kickoff the New Year on January 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00am. And beginning January 8, we'll be back to our worship times of 9:00am & 11:00 am, starting our new series “Chronicles of the Kings.”

There are also great programs available for kids, as we partner with families to see the next generation have a vibrant life in Jesus. Find out more at [calvarylife.org/sundays](http://calvarylife.org/sundays)

### Wednesday Nights

There are some great midweek opportunities coming up in January:

**Alpha** - Come to dinner on **January 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Worship Center Lobby** and hear a talk answering these questions: “Is there more to life than this? Christianity: boring, untrue and irrelevant?” [calvarylife.org/alpha](http://calvarylife.org/alpha)

**Emotionally Healthy Spirituality** - Find wisdom to care for your soul and mature in your faith as a follower of Christ through this 8-week equipping course beginning **January 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.** [calvarylife.org/equipping](http://calvarylife.org/equipping)

**Celebrate Recovery** - Find hope, healing and help through this Christ-centered twelve-step program to overcome habits, hang-ups and hurts each Wednesday night at 7:00pm in S-6 (north side of Samsvick Chapel). [calvarylife.org/cr](http://calvarylife.org/cr)