

Matthew 2:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

Finding 'the young child with Mary his mother' emphasizes Jesus' humanity while the Magi's falling down to 'worship' acknowledges His deity. The gifts are symbolic: gold for royalty, frankincense for divinity (used in temple worship), and myrrh for His death (used in burial). These expensive gifts likely funded the family's flight to Egypt and return.

Historical Context

The Magi entered 'the house' (not stable), suggesting months had passed. Ancient Near Eastern protocol required bringing gifts when approaching royalty. The gifts were extraordinarily valuable—perhaps equivalent to years of wages.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What is the most valuable gift you can offer Jesus in worship?
2. How do the Magi's gifts prophetically reveal Jesus' identity and mission?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἐλθόντες εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν εὗρον τὸ παιδίον μετὰ Μαρίας τῆς μητρὸς αὐτῷ καὶ πεσόντες
And when they were come into the house they saw the young child with Mary mother him And fell down
G2532 G2064 G1519 G3588 G3614 G2147 G3813 G3326 G3137 G3588 G3384 G846 G2532 G4098

προσεκύνησαν αὐτῷ καὶ ἀνοίξαντες τοὺς θησαυροὺς
and worshipped him And when they had opened treasures
G4352 G846 G2532 G455 G3588 G2344

αὐτῷ προσήνεγκαν αὐτῷ δῶρα χρυσὸν καὶ λίβανον
him they presented him gifts gold And frankincense
G846 G4374 G846 G1435 G5557 G2532 G3030

καὶ σμύρναν
And myrrh
G2532 G4666

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 60:6 (Worship): The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.

Psalms 72:10 (Parallel theme): The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.

Matthew 2:2 (Worship): Saying, 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.

Luke 2:16 (Parallel theme): And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

Psalms 95:6 (Worship): O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

Psalms 72:15 (Worship): And he shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba: prayer also shall be made for him continually; and daily shall he be praised.

1 Kings 10:2 (Parallel theme): And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she was come to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

Numbers 7:14 (Parallel theme): One spoon of ten shekels of gold, full of incense:

Revelation 19:10 (Worship): And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Matthew 14:33 (Worship): Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.