

COMPILED BY
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"...when they were
come into the
house, they saw the
young child with
Mary his mother,
and fell down and
worshipped him..."

Matthew 2:11

Strange Gifts

Matthew 2:1-12 records the story of the wise men coming to worship the baby Jesus. Whenever I was young, I thought it was very strange that the wise men presented the infant with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. I thought these 'wise' men would have brought more practical gifts such as baby clothes, toys, blankets or even a cot; not gold, frankincense and myrrh. It was only much later in my Christian life that I began to realise both the wisdom and the significance of the gifts that the wise men brought to the Saviour as a young child.

They brought gold. In Bible times gold was the merchandise of kings. The wise men somehow knew that this child was a king, not just any king, but the King of kings. Gold also speaks of purity, worth and value. What a picture of the Lord Jesus. He was, and is, pure, spotless and without blemish. Consider His great value and worth. In particular, the Bible mentions the value, worth and preciousness of the Saviour's blood which was shed for sinners like us.

They brought Frankincense. Frankincense was a beautiful sweet-smelling

product. Its perfume would fill the air and linger for a very long time. It reminds us of the Saviour. The sweetness of His presence fills the air. Being with Him is the most pleasant experience imaginable. During His earthly ministry people thronged to be in His company and oftentimes they desired Him to tarry a while longer. Being in the presence of the Lord is the best company anyone could ever have. I wonder who you keep company with.

They also brought myrrh. In ancient times this very special perfume was used to anoint the dead. What a strange gift to bring to someone who was so young. However, this gift reminds us of something very important and that is the Lord Jesus came to lay down His life as a sacrifice for us so that we might be forgiven, cleansed and have the hope of eternal life in heaven some day.

The gifts that the wise men brought were not so strange after all but rather, they are reminders of who the Saviour was and what He came to do for you and me. ■



GIFTS WERE OFTEN GIVEN IN THE BIBLE. MATCH UP THE NAMES OF THE PEOPLE BELOW WITH THE GIFTS GIVEN AND THOSE WHO RECEIVED GIFTS FROM THEM.

JESSE

_____ sent a gift of _____ and gave it to the _____. (1 Samuel 17:17-18)

GOLDEN EARRING

CAPTAIN

JOSEPH

Father Israel sent a present of _____ to _____ . (Genesis 43:11 & 15)

BALM

BRACELETS

REBEKAH

Abraham's servant gave a _____ and two _____ to _____. (Gen 24:15 & 22)

FLOWERS

CHEESES

PRIZES!

Are you 12 or under?
Send your answer, name,
address and church to:

Rev Garth Wilson

Email: answer@fpvision.org
39 Millreagh Ave, Dundonald,
Belfast, BT16 1TZ

£5 WINNERS LAST TIME

- » Julia Moore (Bethel FPC)
- » Adam Watt (Dungannon FPC)
- » Grace Harbinson (Aghalee FPC)
- » Sophie Kinney (Cookstown FPC)
- » Jeremiah Anderson (Mullaghglass FPC)
- » Lydia Thompson (Antrim FPC)
- » Hannah McCauley (Dromore FPC)
- » Josh Cooper (Dromore FPC)

Above are all the answers. However, there will be one word left over:
It is the answer to our quiz.

ANSWER:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CHURCH: