



Approaching Jesus with a Posture of Reverence – Matthew 2:1-12

Have you ever physically bowed down before someone or something?

The wisemen came to Jerusalem for this very purpose, and when they saw Jesus, they **“fell down and worshipped him”!**

Jesus was a child, a Jew, and there was already a king in Jerusalem!

Why would they respond in such a way to Jesus?

Bowing down is a foreign concept (literally) to most of us, but should it be?

Why don't we respond to our presidents like England does their queen!

Why are we so quick to say that respect is earned, not given!

Examples of where this American mindset is unhealthy & destructive:

H.C. Question # 39 – What is God's will for you in the 5th commandment?
“To honor your father and your mother” means...

- To honor, love and be loyal to all those in authority over us.
- Obedience and submission to those in authority is proper.
- Patience is required with their failings.
- We are to trust that God chooses to rule us through them.

Do you/I need to work on our level of respect for those in authority over us?

But what the wisemen were doing here in Matthew 2 goes even beyond this
They were not just showing Jesus respect, they were worshipping Him!

They declared, **“We saw his star when it rose & have come to worship him.”**

Respect is one thing, to worship someone is something altogether different!
Is there anyone that is truly deserving of such a postured approach from us?

The wisemen believed so, and they were on the outside looking in!

Why is it that sometimes those of us on the inside (the Church), forget the proper approach to the One we declare to be our Savior, God, & King?

Why is reverence, not only a forgotten word, but also a neglected practice in the Church today? There is much we can learn from these wisemen!

In Scripture, the word for “reverence” implies a posture, a physical manifestation/response towards the person you are showing reverence to.

The wisemen had it, it was in their very approach to Jesus, but what about us? How can we take on such a posture in our worship of Jesus today?

Tim Tebow is a name you hear often at BRC - “A Night to Shine”!

Tim Tebow is a noun – he is a man, but **Tim Tebow is also a verb!**

What are some other ways to approach Jesus with a posture of reverence?

1) **Be present to worship Him!** We talked about this last week!

The wisemen went to Jerusalem, to Bethlehem, to be where Jesus was!

2) **Don't hesitate, second guess, or resist – Jesus is worthy of our worship!**

As soon as the star appeared they departed, nothing was of greater importance!

3) **Participate!** We all participate at ball games, races, plays, events, etc.

Bowing down to a child was not beneath the wisemen, giving gifts to Him was an appropriate response! Why would it be any different today?

4) **Be prepared!** We prepare for dates, family gatherings & other occasions

How often do we prepare for worship, communion, Christmas, etc.?
Our level of preparation often reveals the value we place upon a thing!

The wisemen placed a high value upon this King, & their prep. reflected it

5) **Be committed!** We often over commit and under produce!

Don't let circumstances/other commitments keep you from worshipping Jesus!

I'm sure the wisemen had other commitments/responsibilities, but worshipping the King was of greater importance to them! What about us?

Giving Jesus our **P.R.A.I.S.E.** this advent season requires a posture of reverence!



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