

Walking with Wise Men

He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.
– Proverbs 13:20 –

The company we keep matters. It is a vital component of our sanctification to associate most closely with those of like mind, and especially to learn from those who have advanced in matters of faith and wisdom. We also do well to associate with those on the pages of Scripture – those whose faith has been uniquely demonstrated and eternally canonized therein by the Spirit of God. Let us take a moment to reflect on what wise men the Wise Men were, for their example can no doubt edify every one of us!

The Wise Men appear at the beginning of the New Testament, coming on the scene suddenly, in Matthew 2:1-2. “Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, 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.” God was doing a new thing in the earth, and these satraps from a distant land were not going to be left out. They came. Their faith drove them to action, even if it took them far from comfort and familiarity. The lesson? Be where God is working, and work where God has taken you.

The Wise Men were few in number. The Bible does not tell us how many, exactly, but it is doubtful it was more than three. Of all men everywhere on the earth at the time, only a few were awaiting and watching. They had seen His star. For how long they were watching we do not know, perhaps up to two years or more prior to their arrival. The watchful and the discerning are few, but that does not deter their faith!

The Wise Men were genuinely inquisitive. God welcomingly entertains questions from right spirits. The first question recorded in the Bible is a disingenuous one. “Hath God said, Ye shall not eat...?” How Jehovah must have loved the seeking nature of these Wise Men to eternally enshrine their genuine, searching question in contradistinction to the Serpent’s as the first question of the New Testament, “Where is he that is born King of the Jews?”

The Wise Men were joyful. When they star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. The joy of the Lord is the strength of the wise souls.

The Wise Men were sacrificial. They presented gifts to Christ from their treasures. Their gifts were both highly valuable and significantly meaningful. They gave thoughtfully, and did so until it hurt. This is worship. This is the way of blessing.

The Wise Men were obedient. They were warned by God to depart another way. This action would no doubt put a price upon their heads, yet they did as they were commanded, regardless of the threat of personal loss.

Lord, make us wise like the Wise Men. - D. Murcek