Advent Devotional - Day 21

December 21st

Scripture: Matthew 2:11 Verse: "On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."



Reflection:

The gifts brought by the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—hold deep symbolic significance. Each gift represents a different aspect of Jesus' identity and mission. Gold, a precious metal, symbolizes Jesus' kingship and His divine authority. Frankincense, an incense used in worship, signifies His priestly role and His divinity. Myrrh, a spice used in burial, foreshadows His suffering and death, highlighting the sacrificial nature of His mission.

In modern times, these gifts remind us of the multifaceted nature of Jesus and His impact on our lives. Gold encourages us to recognize Jesus as our King, deserving of our highest honor and devotion. Frankincense invites us to worship Him with reverence and acknowledge His divine presence in our daily lives. Myrrh challenges us to remember His sacrifice and to live in a way that honors His love and redemption.

Reflect on how you can offer your own "gifts" to Jesus today. What can you give that symbolizes your recognition of His kingship, your worship of His divinity, and your gratitude for His sacrifice? These gifts don't have to be material; they can be acts of kindness, moments of worship, or sacrifices made in service to others.

As you go through your day, let the significance of the Magi's gifts inspire you to live a life that honors Jesus in all aspects. Remember that your actions, no matter how small, can be offerings that reflect your love and devotion to Him.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for the symbolic gifts of the Magi and the profound meanings they hold. Help us to recognize Jesus as our King, to worship Him with reverence, and to honor His sacrifice through our actions. Guide us to offer our own gifts to Him, living lives that reflect His love and grace. Amen.

