
"The Unlikely People of Christmas" - Mt 1-2 & Lk 1-2

When royalty arrives or holds an event, it is usually the most significant people, those with the greatest status in society who are invited and attend. Yet at the arrival of Jesus, the King of the Universe, we find the most unlikely people. A carpenter. A teenage girl. Shepherds. Magi. As we examine their lives and the story, we see important life lessons to learn and live.

Considering our own cultural norms/patterns for parties...

1) JOSPEH - Unquestioning Obedience to God – Mt 1-2

His person & profession... (Mt 13:55; 1:19-20, 24-25)

His options given Mary's pregnancy...

RIGHTEOUSNESS TEMPERED WITH MERCY (vv. 19-20, 24-25)

UNQUESTIONING OBEDENCE (1:24, 2:13-14, 19-21, 22)

2) MARY - Humble Submission to God's Plan – Lk 1

Her processing of the news...

SPECIAL RECIPIENTS OF GRACE (v. 28; Eph 1:4-6)

HUMBLE SUBMISSION & FAITH (v. 38)

3) SHEPHERDS - Joyfully Experiencing God's Grace

Cultural Considerations...

Cultural Comparisons (Mt 2 vs. Lk 2)...

THOSE WITHOUT JESUS SHOULD BE FRIGHTENED (v. 9)

HEAR THE WORD & RESPOND (v. 16)

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS GRACE

4) WISEMEN - Sacrificially Seeking God

The true kings of Matthew 2...

Who Were They?

SACRIFICIALLY SEEKING GOD (Rom 12:1)