

A SAVIOR IS BORN

December 17, 2017 Mat. 1:21; Luke 2:11 by Bob Branch

“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” **Matthew 1:21**

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.” **Luke 2:11**

They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.” **John 4:42**

BIG IDEA: What does it mean to “save us from our sins”?

sozo, v. safe, delivered. OR, To save, deliver, rescue, make whole, preserve safe from danger, loss, destruction.

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him... the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ 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. **Matthew 2:1-3, 9-11**

1. Gold is the gift for a KING. Jesus brought heaven’s kingdom—God is setting things right.

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm... They asked each other, “Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!” **Mark 4:39, 41**

“if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. **Matthew 12:28**

2. The Savior is a PRIEST. Frankincense is a symbol of his priestly role. A priest represents people before God, and is their advocate. (Lev. 30:34; 24:7; 1 Chr. 9:29)

“Since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. **Hebrews 4:14–16**

3. Myrrh, an embalming spice for the dead, means HE CAME TO DIE—for sins he did not commit—to take them into his body as a SACRIFICE and end sin’s reign and power over people. (John 19:39)

“For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood.” **Romans 3:25** NLT