

Tim Watkins

The Wise Men and the Star

I realize in all the messages shared to this point that a vision is something that leads you to Christ.

- Zechariah saw an angel and had a son that paved the way for Christ
- Mary was visited by the Holy Spirit so that she would conceive Christ
- The shepherds got a word from an angel that led them to Christ
- The wise men saw a star that led them to Christ

What I most appreciate about the wise men is their reaction to what they saw. In one sense, they saw a star. In another sense, they saw the apogee of their life studies appear before them and they didn't stand still. The wise men reacted. They didn't care about the distance, or the potential danger of the journey, they just went! This is totally against my mode of operation, typically I consider the pros and cons, weigh the consequences, and then decide. Not the wise men. They knew what they saw and followed it.

Sometimes I wonder what their journey was like, it must have taken a long time to go from East to West. Did they ever argue along the way? Did they ever take a wrong turn? Did they run into trouble? I guess it doesn't matter because the Bible doesn't care to record it. It seems to me that the most important thing is that the Lord revealed something to them and they were faithful to follow it until it led them to the goal—Christ.

This is the kind of life I would like to have. I see a vision; a star has been revealed! Not only that, but I'd like to have to have a clear focus like the wise men—to pay close attention when the star appears. Even more than that, I would allow the appearing of that star, that vision, to affect my living.

One other thing I appreciate about the way this picture was shared is that when we pursue; when we follow after what has been revealed to us, it automatically becomes closer, clearer, more realistic, and even more one with us. It's a good check in my own life. Have I been faithful to what the Lord has shown me? Is the vision more real today than it was when I was first saved or when I really began to touch the church. Is the vision closer to me this year than it was last year? Even in this current situation, have I been faithful to pursue such that Christ and the church become clearer and dearer than they were before? These thoughts remind me of this verse in a hymn:

*The Lord has made us one with Him for His recovery:
The riches of this Christ, the church His fullness, men must see.
Yes, all we have and all we are, we everyday outpour
For His tremendous purpose, ever dearer than before.*