

(Following the Footsteps of Christ) the Wise Men at Bethlehem

by Willie Mullan

The sermon explores the different perspectives of the four Gospels and the importance of blending them together to follow the footsteps of Christ.

Duration: 1:03:39

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-6, Matthew 2:13-14, Luke 2:21-22, Luke 2:25-39

Topics: "Footsteps Of Christ"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher discusses the problem of understanding the gospel. He refers to the second vision in Gospel chapter 2 and the presentation in verse 22. He also mentions Simeon's sermon and the adoration of Anna, the prophetess. The preacher emphasizes that there are four gospels, not just one, and mentions the upcoming topic of Egypt. The sermon concludes with a mention of a song and a prayer for security and peace. Additionally, the preacher briefly mentions the story of Herod imprisoning John the Baptist for speaking out against his actions.

Transcript

537, please. 537, Savior, lead me lest I stray. Gently lead me all the way.

I am safe when by thy side. I would in thy love abide. 537, please.

537, Savior, lead me lest I stray. Gently lead me all the way. I am safe when by thy side.

I would in thy love abide. 537, Savior, lead me lest I stray. Gently lead me all the way.

I am safe when by thy side. 537, Savior, lead me lest I stray. Gently lead me all the way.

I am safe when by thy side. 537, Savior, lead me ne'er onward. Nevermore will I depart.

I shall return the way. 537, Savior, lead me lest I stray. Gently lead me all the way.

I am safe when by thy side. I am safe when by thy side. Luke's Gospel, and we're at the second chapter.

Luke's Gospel, chapter two. Now, we have been following the footsteps of Christ in this house for the past three weeks. This is week number four.

And we followed nearly as you should. All the way from Nazareth, way up here. And they crossed the Jordan and came over to what is now known so well worldwide as the Golan Heights.

And came right down this eastern side of the Jordan, which is the Syrian side. And crossed the Jordan at Bethlehem out of there, and came to Bethlehem. And we had another week looking at the day of Bethlehem, and listening to the ballads of Bethlehem.

Glory to God in the highest, and earth peace, good will toward men. And last week we had a look at circumcision, because the child was circumcised the eighth day. And we went into all the details of that very much indeed.

And then six weeks later, when the child was almost six weeks, his mother took him to Jerusalem where he was presented. As every Jewish first born son was presented, because he was made under the law. And we looked at this presentation carefully, and heard Scyllion coming in.

And that sermon from Scyllion I think we will never forget. And then old Anna's adoration, we took time with that too. And we are going to follow on this evening.

Now there is a little problem in the Gospels when you take them one by one. And I want to show you the problem this evening. Because some of the young folks don't understand the problem.

If you look at Gospel chapter 2, and you can see the circumcision in verse 21. And then you can see the presentation in verse 22. And in that great sermon of Scyllion, it begins there at verse 25 and goes right on down.

And from verse 36 to the end of 39, 38, we have this adoration of Anna the prophetess who belongs to the tribe of Asher. Now here is what it said from verse 29. And then they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord.

They returned into Galilee to their own city Nazareth. Now let me say to you that that's not exactly right. And you ask me immediately did Luke make a mistake, and I say no.

So I've got to teach the problem also. You see we have four Gospels, not one. And sometimes I'm asked why four? Why didn't we write this story of Betrayal in one? Now there's a great and wonderful and thrilling answer to that.

Let's go to Martin's Gospel chapter 1 and verse 1. Martin's chapter 1 verse 1. The book of the generation of Jesus Christ. The son of David. Let's get the hold of that now.

That's where this book begins. It begins by calling him the son of David. And then it says the son of Abraham.

Now why is David put before Abraham? And why does the book begin with this great thrilling testimony that Jesus Christ was the son of David? You see when God employed Matthew, when He chose Matthew to write this Gospel, He wanted Matthew who was a text governor, a man who knew everything about the Jewish nation. He wanted him to write about the coming change. And you'll find that everything in Matthew's Gospel, it relates and surrounds itself around the change of the Jews.

You'll find out. And if you keep that in mind you'll learn a lot of things as you go along the pathway. Now let's go to Mark's Gospel.

Because Mark's Gospel is the next one. And here's something for you younger folks to understand. Verse 1, the beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the son of God.

As it was written in the Prophets, Behold I sent my messenger before thy face. And then it goes on down talking about John the Baptist and what he did. And then it says, and it seems the part, verse 9, it seems the part that says that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized of John in Georgia.

And that really starts with the Lord Jesus, this Gospel. It doesn't start about His birth, or it doesn't start about circumcision, and it doesn't start about His presentation, and there's a whole lot of things that's left of it. It begins with Him coming a thirty years of age to the garden.

Oh that's funny isn't it? People ask a whole lot of, haven't they? Oh no, when God employed Him, when He was chosen to write, He was chosen to write about the servants of Jehovah. And basically the word servant means the word slave. Because the Lord Jesus took upon Him the son of a slave.

And you know a slave doesn't need any genealogy written at all. You don't need to know where He came from. You don't need to know who His father and mother is.

You don't need a genealogy for Him. You don't need to listen to David or to Abraham. You just need to know what He does.

And there are more things about what Jesus did in the days of His ministry in Mark than anywhere else. Now let's go to Luke's Gospel now. Luke's Gospel.

And you know now that Luke went into all the details of his birth, didn't he? Well we've been lingering in Luke's Gospel for three weeks now. And you'll find that we're going to have a whole lot more things. The second vision of the child is here.

The presentation before the Lord. And all those things are there. And then Luke said in verse 39, And when they had performed all these things according to the law of the Lord, they did turn in the Galilee.

You see there are certain things that Matthew puts in about the King that Luke doesn't touch. You see when God employed Luke, God was asking Luke to write about the man. Christ Jesus.

And how wonderful God was when He took the tax-gatherer to write about the King. It was a good choice. When He took John Mark to write about the slave.

Because He knew a lot about service. He failed once. When He took Luke, Luke was a physician.

So He would know everything about the man. And all the little details of the body and one thing and another about the man, Christ Jesus, you will find them in Luke. But He doesn't bother about the things of the King so much as Matthew does.

You see when you come to Luke's Gospel, Chapter 3, do you see that? We'll come into this one evening. And you'll find verse 23. And Jesus Himself begun to be about thirty years of age, being as was supposed, of course you've got to get that bit in, the son of Joseph.

Which was the son of Eli. And now you get a genealogy and it doesn't go back to David and it doesn't go back to Abraham. Look at the last verse just for quickness this evening.

Verse 38. Which was the son of Enoch. Which was the son of Seth.

Which was the son of Adam. You see the man is taken back to Adam. Did you see that now? Because that's very important.

And Matthew didn't do that. He only took him back to David and to Abraham. And Mark just left it out because for a slave it doesn't matter.

Then you come to John's Gospel. It begins like this. It's different again.

You see it says verse 1. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God's. You know John was employed to write everything about the Son of God. And you'll get everything about the sonships of Christ in John's Gospel.

Do you see where we are? You see Matthew was thinking about the king. And Mark was thinking about the slave. And Luke was thinking about the man.

And John was thinking about the eternal Son. The one who was with God. The one who was God.

Now you'll find if you try to follow one of the Gospels when you are following the footsteps of Christ you'll be led astray because he may not be putting in at that place all about the king. Watch Luke's Gospel again. We're back at chapter 2. Verse 39.

And then they have performed all things according to the law of the Lord. They returned into Galilee to their own city Nazareth. Friend, I thought the child went down to Egypt at one period.

This man hasn't done a thing about Egypt. You see when he went down to Egypt they were hiding the child. So he didn't have anything to do with that.

So if you think that you could place the footsteps of Christ by looking at one Gospel you'll be led up the garden path. You'll have to take the four Gospels and very carefully blend them together. And that's what I intend to do.

Let's go to Matthew's Gospel. I think you'll get the hold of this. Matthew's Gospel chapter 2. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the graves of Herod the king behold there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem.

And watch where they came to. To Jerusalem. Saying.

Now listen to what they said. Where is he that is born king? Now Matthew's writing about the king so he's got to take up the story now hasn't he? So he's taking up the story here. And the first thing we want to get the hold of is the wonderfulness of the soldier and I should have put it sovereign but it was my blunder.

Doesn't matter. Look at this wonderful saying here in verse 2. Where is he that is born king of the Jews? For we have seen a star in the east and are come to worship it. Let me underline a few things in that text for you.

You see the word born. Well when you say he was born then you talk about his perfect humanity. All the king had a perfect humanity.

I'm of course on the other hand with John convinced that he had perfect deity. Because this was humanity and deity joined in one personality. God manifests.

But we're speaking about the king now. And you can see the humanity. When you say where is he that is born king you're touching his loyalty now.

The little birds that lay in the manger. Don't forget this bit. He was and is and forever shall be the king of the Jews.

And the Arabs would need to learn that this evening. And the Egyptians too. You can see his loyalty.

When you say born you can see his humanity. When you say king you can see his loyalty. When you say Jews you can see his nationality.

He's only king of the Greeks you know. Not the king of any other nation just like that. He's the king of the Jews.

Make no mistake about that. He's related to David. The throne of David belongs to him.

He's the king of the Jews. Look when you say born you can see his humanity. When you say king you can see his loyalty.

When you say Jews you can see his nationality. Now here's what these men said. For we have seen his star in the east.

You know these are wise men from the east. And when this book talks about the east it's talking about the way out of the Chaldeans. That's what Abraham called from at the very beginning.

And you know today let's get the hold of this and I want you to get it. The day that Jesus Christ was born or the night he was born if you like to be correct. There was a star appeared in the east at all of the Chaldeans.

And these wise men and I'll go into this in a moment. This was a new star that had never been in the sky before. You know we're very shocked that God put a special star in the sky that night.

Shows you the superiority of this child. Born says his humanity. King says his loyalty.

Jews say his nationality. The star in the sky that night shows his superiority. But let's really see what they said.

They said there is he that is born king of the Jews. For we have seen his star in the east. And I come, get this now, to worship him.

Because that proves his deity. You see you can only worship God. For these wise men must have known that he was God.

Although he was king. Although he was human. Yes you can see the wonder of the strangers standing up to this as we begin this.

But I want to go on quickly to the wisdom of the seekers. This one says behold there came wise men. There's nothing in this chapter or any other chapter or anywhere else in the New Testament or Old

Testament that declares there were three wise men.

Not in this book. Oh I know I get Christmas cards with three camels and three wise men. There's nothing in the book that says there were three.

No where at all it says wise men. If I talked about the wise men of this meeting I would like to think there were more than three. Yes.

Wise men. Now I want you to get the hold of this. You know these men studied the stars.

Mind you the stars were not just placed in the sky to make it beautiful at night. I know it was beautiful at night. Let's go back to Genesis chapter 1 for a moment.

We're at the book of Genesis. Chapter 1. And on the fourth day God said this verse 14. And God said let there be light in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night.

And let there be for signs. Let's get that bit out of it first of all. In case you think that there's something wrong.

These are there for signs. And for seasons and for days and years. Let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth and it was so.

And God made two great lights. The greater light were in the day the lesser light were in the night. He made the stars also.

What a little slave for such a mighty work. He just threw the millions of millions of stars into the sky. What a gigantic thing.

And yet it does seem you have the stars also. They just put them in as a bit of work you know. Nothing to God.

Very wonderful. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth. They were there for signs you know.

I want you to get that. You know that there's a zodiac dot. Around there somewhere.

And that dot is set at equal parts apart. Divided by equal parts. And you know some of the names of the zodiac don't you? It's a lot of names in there.

You know there was a house not so long ago. And the big girl of the house she was saved in these readings. And she just got woman's own in her hand when I was in.

And I don't mind I could read woman's own all right. And she said listen I'll sit down beside you. Wouldn't tell you what I've said about my house.

I thought she said horrible. But it's all the same thing anyway. So let me see you see that she was born under this particular star.

And I don't remember which one it was. But it was from the 22nd of something into the 20 something of some other month. She says look what it says.

Somewhere this month you shall meet a very beautiful dark haired gentleman. And you know I could see her taking a big deep breath there. She nearly took all the air out of the room that was in there.

And then it went on saying that he would have plenty of money. And for the lady who would find him as a husband. He would make heaven and earth for her.

Because he would be so sensible. And he would be so easy to do. And she was all grown now.

And I said to her do you see that emotion that's going through you now. She says yes. She's all funny about it.

I says there's a word for that dear. She says is there. I says yes it's the word dark.

I said you know I've had a big day with you ever since. I said you see dear if we get this star that you're talking about. And we think about all the Chinese and all the Japanese.

And all the Americans and all the wild Indians. And all the people in the jungle and all the people all over the world. Let me tell you dear that there's about three million girls.

All born under that star. And if they're all going to meet a black haired man this month. They're going to have a whole month of it.

You don't think that there's just a thing like for you. I hope you don't mind. Don't these people fool you.

Three million girls all looking into woman's own all grown socks in the head. Now while we have sung about it. And while it doesn't matter to me whether you read it or anything else.

There is something in the stars. But it will take wise men to know about it. I certainly know nothing about it.

And I don't think that God wants to watch shows by the stars. He has given you a book you know. And let me tell you that this book is a light.

To your feet. And a lamp to your path. And if you would sit down with your nose in the book more often than woman's own you'd get on better.

But I can also suggest that these men. Away out in the far east. Saw this new star.

It's a new one. And not only did they see the star but they knew this. The King.

Of the Jews. They didn't know exactly where but they knew nothing. You know let's keep the whole of this because it is tremendous.

There's far more here than you think there is. There's Egypt, Jerusalem now. And when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King.

They were to invite men from the east to Jerusalem. So the city of Jerusalem say. Where is he that is born King of the Jews for we have seen a star in the east and have come to worship him.

Then Herod the King. Let's get the hold of this character. You see he's the King.

First you know where the palace of the King is. You hear about another King being born in the same city. You might get upset a little bit.

And this upset the King I assure you. But when Herod the King heard these things he was troubled. He thought he was going to lose his new kingdom.

And all Jerusalem whispered. The whole city was troubled. These men and their hearts had been taken into account you know.

They were not gypsies. They had come from the far east and they knew this. And this is the King of the Jews that's born.

Now before we get down to this let's do this next. Verse four. When he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together.

He demanded of them where Christ should be born. Now you're looking at the wretchedness of the scribes now on your notes. But I'll go back to the other in a moment.

And these scribes you know immediately said they knew the Old Testament. In God's name of your dear. He might be born in Jerusalem he'd be born in Bethlehem.

For this it is written by the prophets. And they not only knew the place they knew the prophets. And they knew the proclamation.

And thou Bethlehem in the lands of Judah art not the least among the princes of Judah. For out of thee shall come a government that shall rule my people Israel. I want you to get this book and this is the most sacred bit of this chapter.

And you may not poke it in your mouth. Then Harrod verse seven. When he had properly called the wise men.

He inquired of them diligently. What time the star appears. He's got them all listening.

Says you fellas saw this star in the far east didn't you. I want to know what day or what night this appeared. You've got the time.

That's very important you know. Because we're going to do something in a moment or two that's going to startle you. You see Harrod sent these wise men to search Jerusalem.

Bethlehem verse eight. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said go and search diligently. For the young child.

Now that's not the problem. There's all the difference between a babe and a young child. I hope you know that.

And he sent them to search diligently. Now let's do this again. You know the wise men went of course the star will go back to it.

And they came to this house where the young child and the mother was. Then God sent them home another way. It says verse twelve.

Being warned of God in the dream that they should not return to Herod. They departed into their own country another way. And those who extinct as then Herod.

When he saw that he was not the wise men. With exceeding wrath and said so. And slew all the children that were in Bethlehem and in all the coasts thereof.

From two years old and under. What's that now? According to the time. Which he had diligently in call for the wise men.

How long back was this he says when the star appeared. Too rapidly. You see if you knew anything you would know this.

That if the star appeared at all of the Calvary's or in the province anywhere there. That's the night that the Savior was born. So they followed the star.

And the star goes right up the line of the Euphrates. Because that's the way they would have to go. And then the star would go right across the Syrian desert.

It would come right down by Damascus. It would come down right through the land of Palestine and it came to Jerusalem. If you were doing that journey on a camera I can tell you that it will take you two years.

You see he's a young child now. He's young. I don't know whether they ever got the foolish idea that these fellows came to the manger.

The manger was long over some. Long over. Now let's get back to this again.

They saw the star in the east and they knew he was the king of the Jews. Now let's get down to this. Verses.

And he that has heard sent them to Bethlehem and said go and fetch diligently for the young child. Now he knew he was a young child now. And when he had found them bring me word again that I may come and worship him also.

He had no notion of worshipping. And when they heard the king they departed and all the star which they saw in the east went before them. Till it came and stood over where the young child was.

When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. You can see the joy in their hearts now can't you. And it says this.

When they were come into the house. That's not a stable. I wonder do you read it at all.

Oh talk about the wise men coming into the stable on Christmas night if you like. So let me say that. Ah Bologna it's two years later.

He's not a babe anymore. He's probably in Bologna. He's a young child.

And they're living in a house. And because he's the king of the Jews. This is the bit that Luke left out.

It's got nothing to do with what God implied him to do. Ah but it's got a lot to do with what Matthew had to do because this is the king. Ah let's read it properly.

Verse 11. And when they were come into the house. They saw the young child with Mary his mother.

You know if you were talking about the mother and child you would always put the mother first. The mother and child. Now this book doesn't put the mother first at all.

This book puts the young child first. Very properly. When they were come into the house you know they saw the young child.

With Mary his mother. And fell down and worshipped there. Not at your Christmas.

That's rotten pity. That's what that is. Oh no they only worshipped him.

They never worshipped her in their life. My don't we get a lot of poopery don't we. You know they came to the house.

They have come two years later. He's a young child. Now these men are wise enough.

They fall down and worship him. To worship her would have been sin. Sin, watch this.

And when they were come into the house they saw the young child with Mary his mother. And fell down and worshipped her. And when they had opened the treasures they presented unto him.

It's him not her. Gifts. Gold.

Frankincense and myrrh. That was very well chosen. You know what gold is don't you.

It's something that's everlasting. Something that never loses its power. Something that never changes.

It's like God. And you see these wise men not only saw the star. Not only knew that he was the king.

But they knew that he was God manifest in flesh. That's all they thought had of God. You see this lets you see him as the everlasting Lord.

Now incense is very thrilling. Because it's Frankincense. It's fragrance.

You know I like this. Because this fragrance must have filled the house. You know he wasn't only the everlasting Lord.

But he was the fragrant river of our souls. Thy love is my ultimate purpose. Is what the Old Testament says.

Ah yes you know he saw his new other world about. The everlasting Lord. And the fragrant river of our souls.

But this word myrrh. It has got to do with suffering you know. And it has got to do with death.

You'll find it when he dies and they announce him in the tombs with myrrh. Got to do with suffering and death. So these wise men not only see him as the king of the Jews.

But as the everlasting Lord. As the fragrant river of sinners. As the suffering Lamb.

Okay. These gifts were their children my children. I think that's where some people get the idea of the three from.

But there's nothing to say there were three wise men. There might have been a troop of them and I think there must have been. I don't think that the wise men would have set out by three.

It's a long trip around there. And come or die and so do men sometimes. There might well have been a band of men.

So I think you can see the remedy of the saviour here and the wisdom of the seekers. You must have seen the red signet of the skies. We know these are all fellows who know the scriptures.

And who know the place. Who know the chapter in verse. Who know it all.

But who doesn't? Who doesn't? They are imperfect. But they'll make ground. But they'll look like an organ.

We've got to clothe them with God you know. Now it was a dreadful indictment on them. They knew the place.

Better than him. They knew the chapter in verse. They knew the prophets.

They knew everything but they never went near it. But we don't want to waste time with that. Now do I want to waste time with the next point because we'll pick it up again.

Now these wise men have come a long distance. And they're now in the house. And they've seen the young child and they've presented these gifts.

This verse says, and being warned of God in the dream. That they should not return to hell. And that's a point we should pick up when we take up next week's message.

But let's get it in. They departed into the living country another way. And when they had departed, behold the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in the dream saying, arise.

And sweetly young child and his mother. And you'll notice that the scriptures keep this very exact right down. It's always the young child and his mother.

There are some places that the Roman Catholic Church placed Christ. Placed Christ in the second place. And they placed Miro above him.

Ha! This book doesn't do it. Let's list again. And when they departed, behold the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in the dream saying, arise.

And take the young child and his mother and flee into Egypt. And be thou there until I bring thee word. For Herod will seek the young child.

He wasn't worried about that nearly. Seek the young child who is strong. Want you to watch this.

Then he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night. Mind you he didn't really die with this. God came to him in the dream.

Must have been night time. God says now listen you. You take the young child and his mother and flee into Egypt.

He didn't wait for the morning. Sometimes when God speaks to us, oh how we dilly dally about. My dear friend if God's talking to you about something.

You don't need to dilly dally. You need to obey God. Because if Joseph had not obeyed God the whole thing would be upset.

But we're not going to deal with that because next Tuesday we're going to deal with going into Egypt. Then in Egypt. Then coming out of Egypt.

So we'll leave that but I want you to see this scoundrel this evening. I call this the wickedness of the scoundrel. You see this is Herod the great.

I think that some of the folks get mixed up with Herod. I go to conferences sometimes you know where the preachers are supposed to be. And I hear them blabbering sometimes you know.

Not so very long ago I heard a man preaching on Herod. But he didn't think at all that there was a whole lot of Herods in this book. Because he took them all as his fellows.

Had he read the chapter properly he would have had no bother. Look here's what it said to him. He arose, took the young child and his mother by night and departed into Egypt.

Verse 15. And was there until the death of Herod. This fellow died you know.

It wasn't long after this he died. You can see verse 19. But when Herod was dead behold an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream.

To Joseph in Egypt saying arise and take the young child and his mother and go into the land of Israel. They're coming out of Egypt now. Because Herod's dead.

Now this is Herod the great. Well that's the tip of the lesson now. And you can see this point can't you? You can see that he hated the son of God.

And every Herod you find in this book hates something belonging to God. Let's find another one. Matthew's gospel chapter 13.

Matthew 13. It says verse 1. At that time Herod the tetrarch heard of the fame of Jesus. Now this is what I heard this man preaching.

He was preaching this Herod of Markmouth. He thought this was the same Herod whose name in fact was John. Sure in the chapter it says he died.

And there's been a few other kings in between. But this is Herod and if you know your history this is Herod Antipas. Now he had made Hoden John verse 3. For Herod had made Hoden John the Baptist and bound him and put him in prison.

For the Lord be his sake his brother Philip's right. For John said of him it is not a waffle for me to have her. You know he didn't like the message of God.

See one day when John was preaching he just looked down at the king. And you know his brother Philip's wife was sitting behind him. And that he had taken the wife from his brother and he was running round with her.

In fact history says he was a wild senseless sexual fool. But John the Baptist looked down and said listen to you. It's not a waffle for you to have her.

Take a big man to talk like that. That isn't stone funeral. That's man.

Big man. Talk on out loud. Not afraid.

Now this fellow didn't like that sort of message. So he put him in prison. Oh yes he set him up you see.

He wanted to silence the voice of God through his phone. Because when people are meeting prayer they shut. When you speak out you know really get the message home.

And there's another brawl at a boat adventure. And it enters between the harness somewhere and the hook. They don't like it.

I don't worry about that. I just have to leave it with God and preach on. This man didn't like the message of God.

Let me show you another one. The Acts of the Apostles chapter 12. Acts of the Apostles chapter 12.

First one. Now about that time Herod the King stretched forth his hands to the back setting of the church. Now this is another different Herod.

This is Herod Agrippa the first. And remember in this book there's Herod Agrippa the second too. You see I'm only starting you to think about these Herods because I couldn't dare to teach them them all this evening.

But just as I know all the messages in the books so do I know all the Herods. And I know that one of the Herods he hated the Son of God. And I know that one of them hated the message of God.

And I know that this other one hated the servant of God. He put Peter in prison and he determined to take his head off. You know it's very thrilling that the Lord Jesus came close to the three of them.

Because this first one he escaped. Ah yes he escaped and he was taken down into Egypt so he just didn't get his hands on them at all. And the second one you know why Pilate sent the Lord Jesus to save us.

Second one. That's Luke's Gospel 23 isn't it? Let's have a look at that. That's Luke's Gospel 23 and it's a very important chapter if I'm remembering right.

Yes I am. You see verse 7. As soon as he, that is Pilate, knew that Jesus belonged under Herod's jurisdiction he sent him to Herod. And that's where it ends it was.

That's the man that beheaded John the Baptist. Who himself also was at Jerusalem at that time. And when Herod saw Jesus he was exceedingly glad for he was desirous to see Him for a long season because he had heard many things of Him.

And he hoped he had seen too many to have done by then. Then he questioned with him in many words but he, the Lord Jesus answered him nothing. You know the day that this man took John the Baptist and shut him up in the prison you know he was silencing the voice of God to his soul.

I will let me tell you he met a silent Christ. Let me tell this meeting this evening that there is nothing in this book so terrible awful dreadful of a silent Christ. When Christ will choose us to speak to you you will doubt.

And Christ answered him never a worry. He stood there and asked many questions. Wanted medicals.

Never spoke. There is a time when you can refuse to speak to Him. I went to court once determined I can't make you talk because you don't want to talk.

And I have a good example in my Lord you know. Because you follow Him in everything. You know this other Herod who put Peter in prison This goes back to Acts 12 Acts 12 who put her in prison but the Lord let Peter out.

And it says at the end of the chapter verse 20 And Herod was highly displeased with them of fire and silence but they came with one accord to him for they made bluffs that the king's temple and their friend desired peace because their country was nourished by the king's country and upon the tip they Herod the lord and ruler of power sat upon his throne and made an ovation on the men and the people gave his head saying it is the voice of the gods they were flattering him and not of a man but of a beast the angel of the Lord shot him I think the Lord Jesus said the angel You know one of them he escaped from and the other one he was silent before and the other one he smote he could manage them all But let's get back to this dreadful thing this evening in Master's Gospel chapter 1 I want to

get the hold of this because this is really something for us You know verse 7 we did look at it carefully didn't we Then Herod when he had crippledly called the wise men I think he brought them into the palace into a secret room inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared I mean 200 years ago He went down the road He knows what time the star appeared 2 years before this thereabouts First great thing says Then Herod when he thought that he was mocked of the wise men was exceeding wrath and sent forth and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem and in the coast thereof from 2 years old and under Sure that alone would tell you the time That settles it Why would he have to kill all the wee babies from 2 years old and under You know he was making sure that he would get this

young thing From 2 years old and under according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men My dear friends this was foretold in the Old Testament And God knew exactly how angry he would be because he warned Joseph to flee that very night You know this is something that we get all the time in the scriptures I think it was a thumping at the end for the boys at the hill This commission and this direct war of God Men to God stood up unpunished for all error to slay the weak kids from 2 years old and under And what a weeping there was in that part of the country But God was directing directing very carefully the footsteps of his son Friend it's a great thing to be a child of God It's a great thing I don't think that any one of us know exactly what might take place in this

present of ours You know some time ago I found out in a little tract that we in Auschwitz we're either going to revival or we're going to be killed or Christ will come and there'll be removal and we're back round to it again It'll either be revival or rebellion or removal You know I noticed this evening that if the British government push this thing to take this province and this people there'll be murder in the streets I assure you of that this evening and there'll be countless thousands killed and murdered on every side and the British government no tricks at times send a man to this province of time value and he goes all the time to this province and they send another one and they'll fiddle around too long and they'll go too far and there'll be murder If you're a child of God you don't

give two hoots What happens?

God will be directing us and God will see us through and our faith is not in that law more than anybody else Our faith is in God God will see us through Next week we're going into Egypt and in Egypt and out of Egypt God bless you Singing number 34 this evening Hymn number 34 it's a lovely little hymn and I've put a tune to it this evening and you need the second verse of the chorus and then you sing the first verse and sing the second verse of the chorus and then you sing the third verse and go back to the second verse of the chorus now just two verses using the second one of the chorus each time Thank you Lord Hymn number 35 Hymn number 35 is a lovely song to love and love again It will certainly shine on earth today To all the world shall end His name shall be the symbol of peace Forevermore Forevermore From one world to another Forever and ever I will love you In my dreams and in my prayers To grace, love, and shadow And in the power of His throne of power And in His power of His throne His name shall be present again Forevermore From one world to another Forever and ever I will love you Dear Lord, help us in our fear with our blessing and take us to our homes in safety and protect our policemen this evening and guard and preserve our security workers and keep murder off our streets Through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

Audio: <https://sermonindex1.b-cdn.net/8/SID8365.mp3>

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/willie-mullan/following-the-footsteps-of-christ-the-wise-men-at-bethlehem/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net