

Matthew 2:1-12

Sierra's
Christmas Series

CHRIST
MAS
CALLS

*When you talk about your relationship
with Jesus, how do you describe it?*

Savior?

Lord?

Friend?

Example?

Forgiver of my sins?

King?

Matthew 2:1-12 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.

4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6 *"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel. (Micah 5:2,4)"*

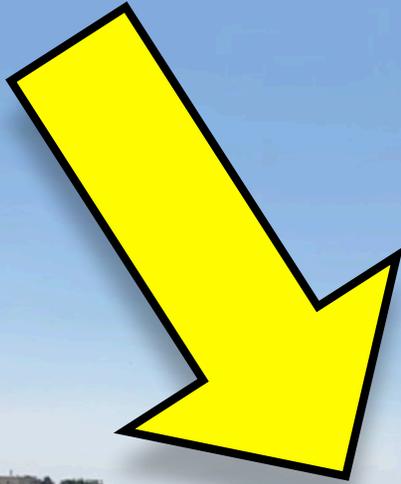
⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." ⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the **child**. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." ⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and 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. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



Bethlehem



Journey of the Magi



*Mediterranean
Sea*

Jerusalem

DESERT

Tigris
River

Babylon

Euphrates

900 Miles - *One Way!*

Scale of Miles

0

200

EGYPT

Nile
River

Tale of 2 Kings

One King is desperate to maintain as much power and control over his life and empire as he can. He kills anyone that he see as a threat (including family members) to his power. This is King Herod.

The other King willing came down from this throne to serve others. Rather than use power to protect his life, He gave it to save His family. This is King Jesus.

The coming of Jesus into the world evokes hostility and pushback. We shouldn't look at Herod and say, "Well, he was a tyrant."

Every single person in this room knows his own heart. Like Herod, you don't want other people telling you how to live your life. You want to choose for yourself.

Tim Keller: *"The World & Jesus"* Dec. 21, 2014



When people met Jesus, they always acted in an extreme way. They never acted moderately. They either ran from him in terror, assaulted him in anger, or bowed in adoration and surrender.

Tim Keller: *"The World & Jesus"* Dec. 21, 2014



They were either all for him or all against him. They were afraid of him or angry at him, they gave him everything and centered their entire life around him, **BUT NOBODY RESPONDED MODERATELY.** Why? Because of his claims. He's the King!

Tim Keller: *"The World & Jesus"* Dec. 21, 2014



The Magi & Worship

If Jesus is who He says he is, it's worth going to great lengths in pursuit of Him! It also makes sense that we'd trust Him and follow him because He knows what's best. Because of all he has done for us, it's a joy to give our best to Him!

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: “I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God.” That is the one thing we must not say. **A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher.** He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice.



C.S. Lewis

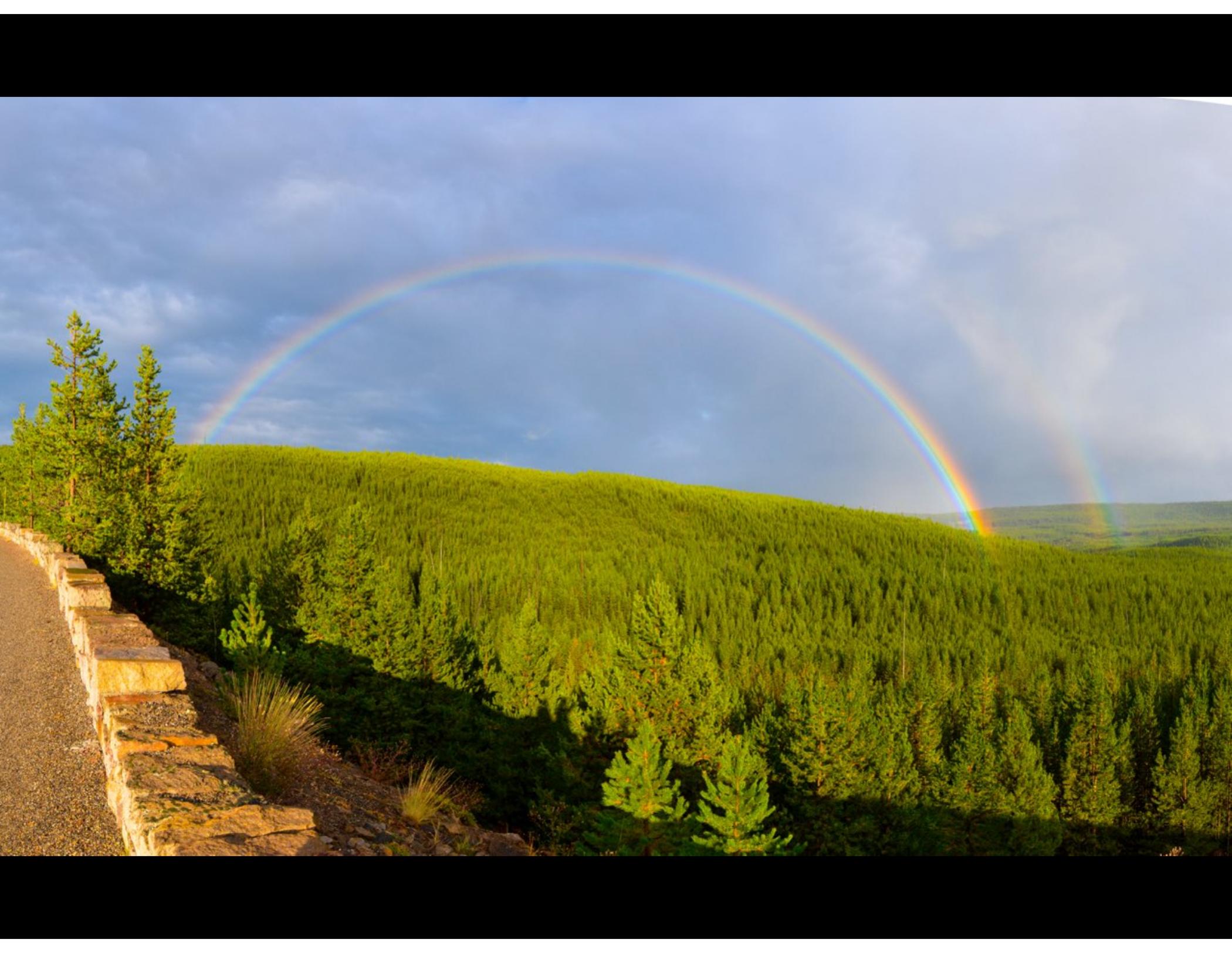
Mere Christianity, pg. 54–56

Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher.



C.S. Lewis

Mere Christianity, pg. 54–56



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