

Scripture: *Matthew 2:1-12*

I. Examine the fruit of man's _____
James 3:14-16; Romans 1:28-32

II. Wise Men followed the _____ of the
birth of a king in Israel. John 4:24

III. Wise men grow in their _____
_____. Ephesians 1:15-19; Proverbs 9:10

IV. A wise man understands _____ for
us is found in the Bible. Psalm 19 (7-8); 2 Peter 1:19-21 1 Corinthians
1:30; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

V. A wise man heeds the _____.

1. The Bible must be respected as God's law of how His children are to live. (9-11)
2. God revelation of the truth allows Him to cleanse us from secret sin. (12); Psalm 139:23-24
3. God can keep me from deliberately disobeying Him. (13)

VI. A wise man has a _____. (14)

Thought for the Day: Once again it is Christmas season. Even in 2020 people are seeking. Except this year we are seeking not just for the right presents. We are seeking for an end to a challenging year. The world is seeking a scientist to develop a vaccine to kill a virus. Economist are looking for a leader to direct our commerce and the nation is looking for a leader to bring unity and peace. Man's wisdom is based on reasoning, God's wisdom is based on revelation. I have found that most of the time the wisdom revealed by God is reasonable; it makes sense, but sometimes it is beyond my capabilities to understand all of his ways. A truly wise person accepts the sovereignty of God, trust His plan is best for the world, and is able to accept and understand His perfect love. The revelation we need from God can only be found through faith. **Hebrews 11:6** ⁶ But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. There have been many times this year when it seemed our world is spinning out of control. At the time of this writing the virus is spreading; schools are not open; many churches are not meeting in person and even the one's that are open have restrictions. Places where addicts go for support are shut down meaning more addicts are dying. Politicians are promising to fix problems using money, science and man's reasoning. There are some Christians in the fight who are asking God for help but coronavirus and the economy is not the real problem. The real problem is in the heart. Looking at our world through the eyes of reasoning should lead to fear. Looking at the world trusting the sovereignty of God, trusting he has a plan and is in control and realizing He loves me with a perfect love leads to hope. May 2020 be the time we diligently seek Jesus so we may truly be rewarded with a blessed Christmas season. **Pastor Bruce**