

# GIJAPA



God Is Just A Prayer Away  
Radio Broadcast Around the World

## GOD Is Just a Prayer Away

### 50,000 Watt Stations Every Sunday

WLW	6:30 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WLW	8:00 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
KXEL	10:30 PM	1540 Dial	Waterloo, IA
WRVA	7:04 AM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WRVA	9:30 PM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WIBC	7:30 AM	93.1 Dial	Indianapolis, IN
WHAS	7:30 AM	840 Dial	Louisville, KY
KAAY	9:30 PM	1090 Dial	Little Rock, AR
WDOC	7:45 AM	1310 Dial	Prestonburg, KY
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ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

December 2010

Address all Mail: Ed Bousman, P.O. Box 511, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142-0511

Issue 12

## Seasons Greetings

# 49 Years

We send this special December issue of GIJAPA in lieu of a Christmas card to say Seasons Greetings and thank you for your faithful gifts and prayers through out the year. Thank you for standing with me as I begin my 49th year broadcasting November 18. Ed, Naomi and staff say Happy Holidays. Standing: Barbara Ertel, Amy Cox, Mona Allen, and Glenna Butler. Thanks to Bob Stevens, photographer and evangelist of Allensburg Church of Christ.



# THE STAR



In Matthew chapter two we find the story of the STAR. The star is mentioned four times in the chapter. The first time is in the second verse. “Where is He that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east, and are come to worship Him.” The second time is in the seventh verse. “Then Herod, when he had privily called the Wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.” The third time is in the ninth verse. “When they had heard the King, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.” The fourth time is in the tenth verse, which reads, “When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.”

## WE SAW HIS STAR IN THE EAST

The Wise men saw the star while they were in the east. The gospel song says it for us: *Star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright. Westward leading still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.*

The Wise men came to Jerusalem looking for the newborn King. It is to be remembered that the first question that God asked of the first Adam in the Old Testament in the Garden of Eden was, “Adam where art thou?” The first question that is asked of the second Adam in the New Testament was by the Wise men and they said, “Where is He? Where is He that is born King of the Jews? We have come to worship Him.” They called Jesus the King. He was the King. For one thing He was born a King. He is called the King while He was in the cradle. Not only was He recognized as the King in the Cradle, He was also called the King on the cross. Pilate put up a sign on the cross that proclaimed Him, “JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS.” The King in the Cradle and the King on the Cross. But His Kingship reached out to another dimension; He is King of the Church. Upon this rock I will build My church, I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom. My kingdom is not of this world. King in the Cradle, King on the Cross, King of the Church, and also King at His coming again. In the imagery of Revelation He is seen at His return on a white horse and on His thigh was written King of kings and Lord of lords.

## WHAT TIME THE STAR APPEARED

The second mention of the Star, Herod called unto him the Wise men privately. Herod asked the Wise men what time the star appeared. Herod obviously believed the scripture. He believed that the Christ had come. Believing it, he had no intention of accepting the truth, and applying it to his life. What the Lord wanted did not fit his life style. There is many a Herod in this audience today. People who believe the gospel truth, but no affirmative decision will be made. So he inquired what time the star appeared. He sent them to find out exactly concerning the young Child. Neither Herod nor the scribes went with the wise men. They knew and believed the scripture, but there was a gap between their knowledge and their performance. The

prophecy said that the newborn King would be a governor of His people. Herod did not want a governor over him. It is the same problem now. In the first gospel sermon on the Day of Pentecost, Peter laid it on the line when he said in the thirty-sixth verse of the second chapter of Acts. “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.” People today want a Savior, they want a Messiah, but they don't want a Lord. Jesus not only wants to be your Savior, He wants to be your Lord as well. He wants to be able to tell you what to do, what to say, how to live. He wants to give thrust to your life.

## THE STAR WENT BEFORE THEM

And they having heard the King went their way and lo the star, which they saw in the east, went before them and came and stood over the place where the young child was. Many explanations have been given regarding the star. One of the most popular is that there was a conjunction of planets about that time of the planets Mars, Jupiter and Venus. They supposedly were lined up in such a way as to look like one gigantic star. This explanation just won't work. Suppose that all the planets in our solar system were lined up in such a way as to form one gigantic super star. Think of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, so arranged in the heavens that they looked like one glorious celestial light. There would be one glaring reason why even such a sight, as this could not have guided the Wise men. Even such a star would not stand over any particular house. It would stand over every house in Bethlehem and Jerusalem, and over every house in all the area. There is no way that such a heavenly sight could fit the scriptural account, the star that they had seen in the east that went before them, and stood over the place where the young child was. There is no way that astronomers today can find the Star that guided the Wise men. It was a special star used of God for the great event of the birth of Jesus. Now at this point the Wise men had a problem. Some great mystery they could not understand. It must have baffled them no end. I refer to the statement that, the star stood over the place where the young child was. Think of their amazement as they knocked on the door; Joseph opens, and welcomes them. The Wise men say, “Is this it? Is this the place?” Joseph says, “You have come to the right place.” One of the Wise men, I have forgotten which one said, “This doesn't look like the right place. On all the Christmas cards I have received there should be a manger and some cattle, and some shepherds. If this is the right place, please explain, where the shepherds are, and there also ought to be some angels flying overhead and we don't see anyone. Why isn't the choir singing, Silent Night Holy Night?” It was at this point, that Joseph told them, “If you gentlemen want to get your spiritual guidance from Christmas cards, no wonder you had a hard time finding us. The shepherds have been here and are long gone, maybe a couple of years ago. We moved out of the stable, and have been at this house for some time now.” The star went before them and stood over the place where the young child was. The star did not go past Bethlehem, nor did it fall short of Bethlehem, nor did it go the right of, or the left of Bethlehem. It came to the place, smack dab on the spot over the house where the

young child was. And that brings us to the fourth mention of the star.

### WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR THEY REJOICED

The fourth mention of the star was when they saw it with exceeding great joy. And they came into the house, and saw the young child with Mary, His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. It says they worshiped Him. It does not say they worshiped her. They worshiped Him. And they offered unto Him gifts: a rattle, a pacifier and a teddy bear. Who in their right mind would give any child gold, and frankincense, and myrrh? What could a young child, as Jesus is called here, do with gifts like that? Do you really believe they gave Him stuff like that? Perhaps as we read what they really gave, we ought to revamp our giving ideas. The reason they gave what they gave was because they were Wise men and not dumb men. How about giving young people a good example. One high school student who came to school drunk, when asked how she got booze to get drunk at seven o'clock in the morning said, she got it out of the refrigerator at home. That may be the best gift some of you could give to your kids; pour your booze down the drain. How about giving yourself something as a stocking stuffer, some self respect? The greatest gift of all is the gift of yourself. An example, of the kind of giving that counts, is found in Second Corinthians chapter eight, "And this they did, regarding the poor Churches of Macedonia, who gave beyond their means." Some today live beyond their means, but these gave beyond their means. The secret of their generosity was they first gave their own selves to the Lord and unto us by the will of God. The greatest gift you can give is to give of yourself.

### CONCLUSION

These are the four times the star is mentioned in Matthew chapter two: We saw His star in the east, what time the star appeared, the star went before them and stood over the place, and they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great Joy.

*The Star road is the fairest road that ever you will follow. It winds as sweetly as a song through desert and through hollow. It leads us up high mountain peaks, and into promised lands. And at the end a baby waits with tiny out flung hands. The Star road is the straightest road, although it climbs and dips. But always there's a garden spot, a spring for parching lips. There always is a bit of shade when midday gilds the skies. And at the end a mother waits with wonder in her eyes. O you who travel on that road the starlight has made bright, Need never fear the crash of storms the tumult of the night. For through the crowding centuries the angel voices call and at the end the Savior waits with a haven for us all.*

## UNDER THE TREE

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS

December the twenty-fifth is the birthday of the Lord. It should not be necessary but it needs to be pointed out that

we don't know what day the Lord was born, He didn't tell us in His word. But He was born and it could have been any winter day. People usually get gifts on their birthday so we need to give the Lord a gift on His birthday. Then there is an additional element when we think of Christmas; there is the matter of the tree. If you are going to give a gift to the Lord on His birthday, put the present under the tree. Put it under the tree that Peter talked about. Peter said in Acts the fifth chapter, ". . .whom also they slew hanging Him on a tree." Paul said in Galatians the third chapter in speaking of the crucifixion, "Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree." You see, the real Tree is the CROSS. Personally I can think of no better way to celebrate the birthday of the Lord than by placing a generous check at the foot of the cross. Sending that check to the GOD IS JUST A PRAYER AWAY radio broadcast is one way to put your present under the tree, and know exactly where it's going, because you can listen every Sunday and 24/7 on the internet [www.gijapa.org](http://www.gijapa.org) around the world.

## LETTERS

Dear sister Naomi,

We send you warm greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. How are you and the all family? My family and I are doing well and the Church is fine. We had 2 brothers baptized this month 2010. We have good news, we have a baby girl, born on 4th October 2010, at Solwezi General Hospital. Her name is Naomi Maseka. Thank you that you are in our family. Pictures for the Church and Naomi are on the way coming. Thank you for all your continued support and prayers. Please use the address 110263, for everything you are sending even the CDs. Please pray for Naomi. Yours brother and fellow servant of Jesus Christ.

*John Maseka, evangelist with Messenger Church of Christ in Solwezi*

Dear brethren, Greetings. Evangelism Facts from India

Christians number about 3 to 4% of the population only. Hindus number about 82%, Muslims about 12%, and all others about 2 or 3% most of India's population is in rural areas most are hard working but poor most are conscious of religious values and are looking for spiritual growth and relationships but they need proper guidance. Many of the Hindu people are conservative, moral and have a rich cultural heritage but idol worshiper. In India many language speaking people are living together. We visit all kinds of people and continually sharing the message of Jesus with them. Please pray for our ministry in bringing the message of Christ to the people of India. Hope to hear from you. God bless you.

*D.Samuelraj minister of Sathy Church of Christ (Christian assembly; Colony Nehrunagar, INDIA*

Dear Sister Naomi,

We do hope you are all fine in the Lord and we believe our brother Bousman is doing well by now.Thanks be to

God our Lord. The rains are heavy here these days and we know it will come to a halt within four weeks time. The work here keeps on progressing from time to time. We thank all of you and pray for God's continuous protection over you through Christ our Savior, Amen. We have received all the 5 boxes of gifts with strong shoes for men, women and children, and clothes together with 2 boxes of Bibles. We are so thankful for all these, especially the strong shoes with cooked rubber sole. Also thank for the clothes for the babies. We have a new baby in the church, born on 18th September 2010. Pictures are coming soon. We still need more Bibles now the family is big. Thanks also for the 2 boxes you have sent recently. How is brother Ed Bousman? Please tell him for us, that, we love him and always praying for him. Stay well.

*Evangelist Alexander Orfi from the London Corner Church of Christ in The Gambia*

Dear Madame Naomi:

Thanks so much for the latest six (6) boxes of clothing. We will disburse them to typhoon victims when we have got them in the mail, maybe a week from now. The storm has come to us by the time our rice crops is about to be harvested. Several fields were devastated as the typhoon lasted for about a week. Lately I have done some visit of our four struggling local churches & some of those whom we have Bible studies. It breaks my heart to see some devastation of their just a handful rice fields. Some of them are but farm helpers who work with tenants. Their families especially their children were hopeful to have food & some expense this last quarter from this supposed harvest. But the storm has strike down their crops & the grains were fallen & had miseries of the saints as in the days of the Apostles of our Lord. I am making exposed on the ground that rotten or sprout & the result is their harvest's shares would be lean! If God allowed I will renovate our house's roof & siding & to replace those that could no longer be used to have a livable home this late storm season. The terrible storm is heading northwest now.† We are OK except we are going to fix house for some damage roof & siding

as they were misaligned or thrown out by the strong wind. If God is willing we would do some cleaning tomorrow. The typhoon has slammed the northern part of our country & has sustained a severe damage aside from the lives of about 10 individuals. Our crop alone has an estimated devastation of about 1.5 billion. May God keep on holding us in His Mercy & Care. I am going to visit our brethren & prospects starting maybe this Saturday. They must be lifted up! GOD is wonderfully working through you for His people around the world! Yours for the Lord's poor people.

*Ed Domingo, Sunset Beach Church of Christ; Philippines*

*Just a reminder to our readers: Ike was in a very serious Taxi accident couple months ago and had to undergo surgery. His letter below indicates he is recovering.*

Dear Ed and Naomi,

Reflecting on our lives, we don't just know how to thank you for all you people are doing for us. May God bless you so much! Hope Ed is doing fine and you, too? I am responding to treatment though I was back again to the hospital over my waist problem but I am doing better and home again now. Please, pray for us. Last Friday, our son, Brian brought home two boxes of shoes and two boxes of clothing, but unfortunately, he do not write down the CP numbers for me to send them to us to know which boxes I am referring to. We thank you so much for them and may God bless you. There have been a lot of blackouts here in Ghana and at times we do not have credit on our modem to access e-mail so I have to do it on my get c- c3212 Samsung mobile phone. Lee and everybody are doing fine here by the grace of God. We are praying for Ed. we have received all the 4 boxes of Bibles mailed as of yesterday when Brian brought our letters from Accra. Please, we need more Bibles for the remaining 77 graduates and others also some clothing. God bless you.

*Ike and Lee*



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