

Six Ways that we humans have responded to Jesus – Pt 2

(From The Worst to the Best)

1. **Herod (The Worst):** From Herod, we learned that getting upset with God when we think He is taking something away from us, only leads to greater conflict with others. It also leads to acting out in ways that do not honor God when we do not get our way. Our sin, like Herod's, is selfishness and pride.

2. **Pharisees, Sadducees, Teachers of the Law (Bad):** From the Jewish leadership, we learned that when God's speaks or teaches something other than what our traditions have taught us, we should not respond with jealousy, aggressive personal attacks, and slander. This also leads to acting out in ways that do not honor God, and places us in Isolation from, and opposition to, the truth.

3. **Zachariah (Not so Great, but able to recover):** Zachariah let his life's circumstances blind him from his spiritual circumstances. He did not trust God because he could not see for himself how God's plan could possibly work out.

Fortunately, after meditation on God's message, and watching the example of his wife Elizabeth, he was able to embrace the mission God give him to raise and prepare the final prophet, who would proclaim the immediate coming of the Messiah.

4. _____ (Good):

Matthew 2:2 "We saw ____ star when it rose and have _____ to worship Him"

Historically: These Magi were geographically from Babylon, and had served **continuously** through the reigns of many conquerors and kings. It seems as if they were "of the _____ of _____".

Practically: They has ____ question or doubt about what has just happened.

Matthew 2:10-11 "When they saw the star they were _____" ...
When they saw the child, "they **bowed down & worshipped** him."

Question: When you learn the truth of God's Word, do you take it as **undeniable and unquestionable truth**, that must be **obeyed and responded to** whenever appropriate. And when God delivers, do you give him _____ and _____?

5. _____ (Really Good):

Luke 2:15 “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened...”

Luke 2:17 “When they had seen him, they spread the word ...

The Response: The shepherds _____, verified, and then _____ others.

Question: Now that you have believed, and God’s truth has been verified, are you obeying the Great Commission to make disciples, baptize, and disciple?

Illustrated: _____ like faith – Matthew 18:2 says “unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

6. **Simeon and Anna (Really Good):**

Luke 2:28 “Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace”

Luke 2:38 “Coming up to then at that very moment, she (Anna) gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.”

Context: Simeon and Anna had a _____ to lean on, and lean on it they did.

Illustrated: _____ to the scriptures and the promises given within.

Application:

1. Like the Magi, if you know God’s Truth, _____ on it – without question or doubt.
2. Like the Shepherds, when God gives you an undeniable message – _____ it like a _____ whose just been given a wonderful promise from is loving father.
3. If all you have in your favor is God’s Word and His promises, let that be _____. At that point, simply _____ God to do what He has promised.

What am I supposed to do?

Proverbs 3:5-6 _____ in the Lord with all your heart and lean _____ on your own understanding; in all your ways _____ to him, and he will make your paths straight.