

Sermon Starter – Your Saving Mystery Revealed

Matthew 2:1-12

On an interior wall of the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem is a depiction of magi. When the Persians invaded in AD 614 the church was spared because the magi are portrayed as wearing Persian clothing. Local Muslim-Christian friendship is believed to be why the church was not destroyed under Hakim's rule in 1009. It is interesting that when foreign powers discover the Christ child, there is peace. In our desperate desire for peace in our world, it is a temptation of the church to leave the Christ child behind for fear of being offensive. In the story of the magi today, and in countless situations since, lasting peace still comes out of an encounter with Christ.

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