

Peace on Earth

How To Respond To Jesus

Matthew 2:1-3 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. (NIV)

4 Wrong Responses To Jesus

1. Living away from God's presence

Matthew 2:13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” (NIV)

James 4:4 You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. (NIV)

2. Living a life of sin

3. Living by your principles

Matthew 2:7-8 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.” (NIV)

4. Living a self-reliant life

Matthew 2:16 When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. (NIV)

Luke 1:46-49 Mary said, “My heart praises the Lord; ⁴⁷ my soul is glad because of God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has remembered me, his lowly servant! From now on all people will call me happy, ⁴⁹ because of the great things the Mighty God has done for me. His name is holy; (GNT)

4 RIGHT RESPONSES TO JESUS

1. Living in God's presence

Luke 1:26-28 In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." (NIV)

Isaiah 26:3 You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. (ESV)

2. Living a life of purity

Luke 1:29-30 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. (NIV)

Psalms 5:12 Surely, Lord, you bless the righteous; you surround them with your favor as with a shield. (NIV)

3. Living by God's principles

Luke 1:37 "For no word from God will ever fail." (NIV)

Luke 1:38 Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant." (NLT)

Psalms 119:165 Great peace have those who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble. (NIV)

4. Living a God reliant life

Luke 1:38 Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her. (NLT)

Matthew 16:25 If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. (NLT)