



## *"A Christmas Paradox"*

*Matthew 2:1-12*

*December 22, 2019*

*"But you, Bethlehem... are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people..." Matthew 2:6*

What does this passage teach us concerning the newborn baby Jesus?

1. Jesus came to RULE over us.
  - a. We must submit PERSONALLY to the reign of Jesus. Philippians 2:9-11, Romans 6:23
  - b. We must allow Jesus to rule with ABSOLUTE Kingship. Mark 12:30
  - c. We must prepare for Jesus to rule GLOBALLY. Revelation 15:3-4, Haggai 2:7
  
2. Jesus came to SHEPHERD us. John 10:11, Psalm 23:1-6
  - a. He wants us to cast our CARES on Him. Psalm 23:1-3, 55:22
  - b. He wants us to find our COMFORT in Him. Psalm 23:4, 46:1, 1 Peter 5:8, Acts 20:29
  - c. He wants us to walk COMPETENTLY with Him. Psalm 23:5-6, 1 Corinthians 15:57, James 4:8, Jeremiah 29:13, John 14:2, 2 Corinthians 4:17

Questions to Consider:

- This Christmas season, have I submitted entirely to Jesus as Ruler of my life?
- If Jesus is the Ruler of my life, what area do I need the Shepherd to tend to in my life? Provision? Comfort? Victory? Something else?

What is the Holy Spirit prompting me to do?

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