



What do you want for
CHRISTMAS?

THE SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR

Advent: Anticipation

Christmas: Incarnation

Epiphany: Revelation

Lent: Crucifixion

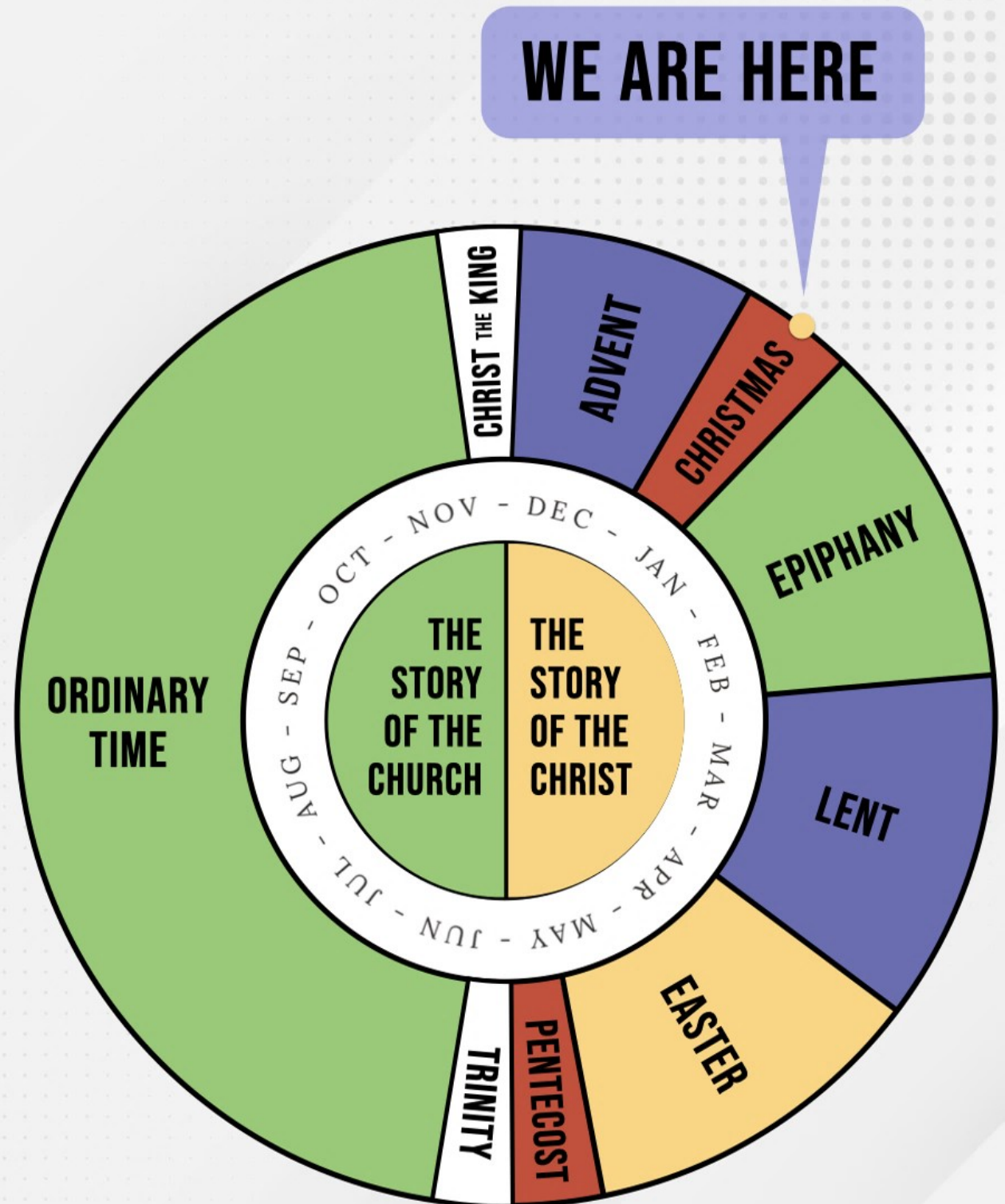
Easter: Resurrection

Pentecost: Ascension

Trinity: Magnification

Ordinary Time: Mission

Christ the King: Conclusion





**DEMOLITION OF OLD SANCTUARY HAS BEGUN:
PLAN FOR INCONVENIENCE & UNSIGHTLINESS**

STARTING NEXT WEEK PSBC WILL NO LONGER BE LIVESTREAMING ON FACEBOOK



YOUTUBE PAGE



OUR WEBSITE



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MATTHEW 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 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.”

MATTHEW 2:1-12

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.

MATTHEW 2:1-12

“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:
‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

MATTHEW 2:1-12

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 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.”

MATTHEW 2:1-12

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

MATTHEW 2:1-12

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



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WHAT DID YOU GET FOR CHRISTMAS?

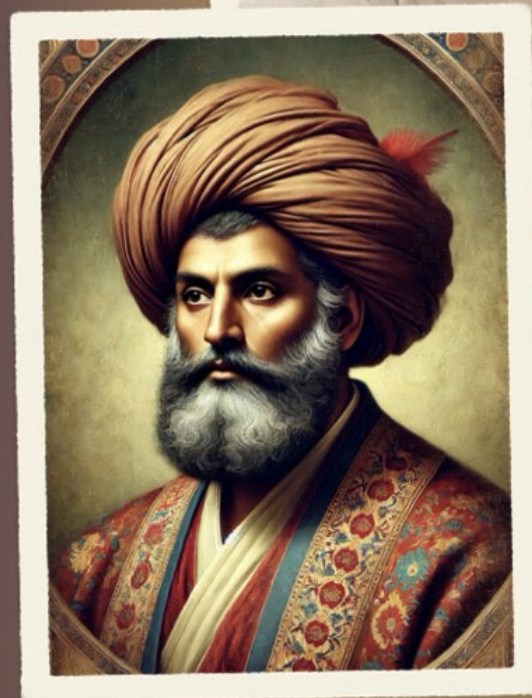


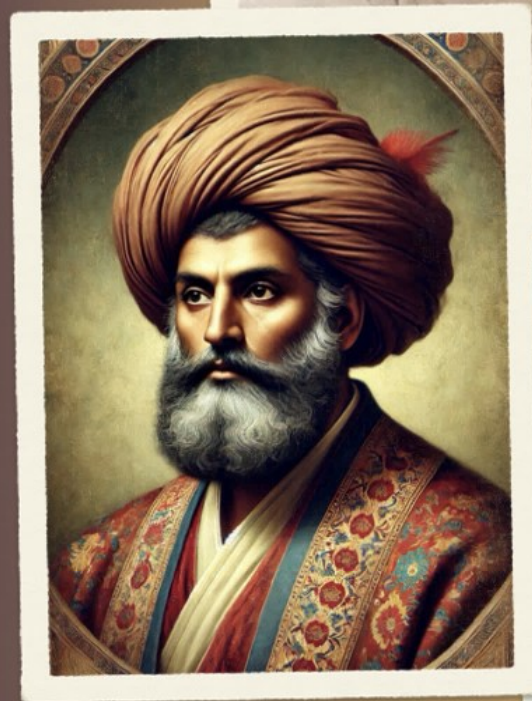


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SINCERITY & RHETORIC

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- iii) Magi, “On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and **worshipped** him.” (Matt. 2:11)



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OBEDIENCE & POWER

- i) *Though the Magi do not know what's going on,* they load up a caravan (2:1), follow a super—natural star (2:2,9), ask for directions/help (2:2), listen to instructions (2:8), and heed the warnings they receive in a dream (2:12)

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- ii) ***Though Herod does not know what's going on,*** he gets scared (2:3), which terrifies the city (2:3) and starts ordering people around—first the priests (2:4) and then the magi (2:7-8)



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GENEROSITY & SECURITY

- i) *In pursuit of this newborn king*, the magi spent a great deal of their time—maybe as long as two years (Matt. 2:16), their talent (Matt. 2:1-2), and their treasure: gold, frankincense, and myrrh (Matt. 2:11) to honor and worship Him

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- ii) ***In pursuit of this newborn king***, Herod spends his influence to kill a bunch of toddlers and infants (Matt. 2:16) in order to eliminate Him



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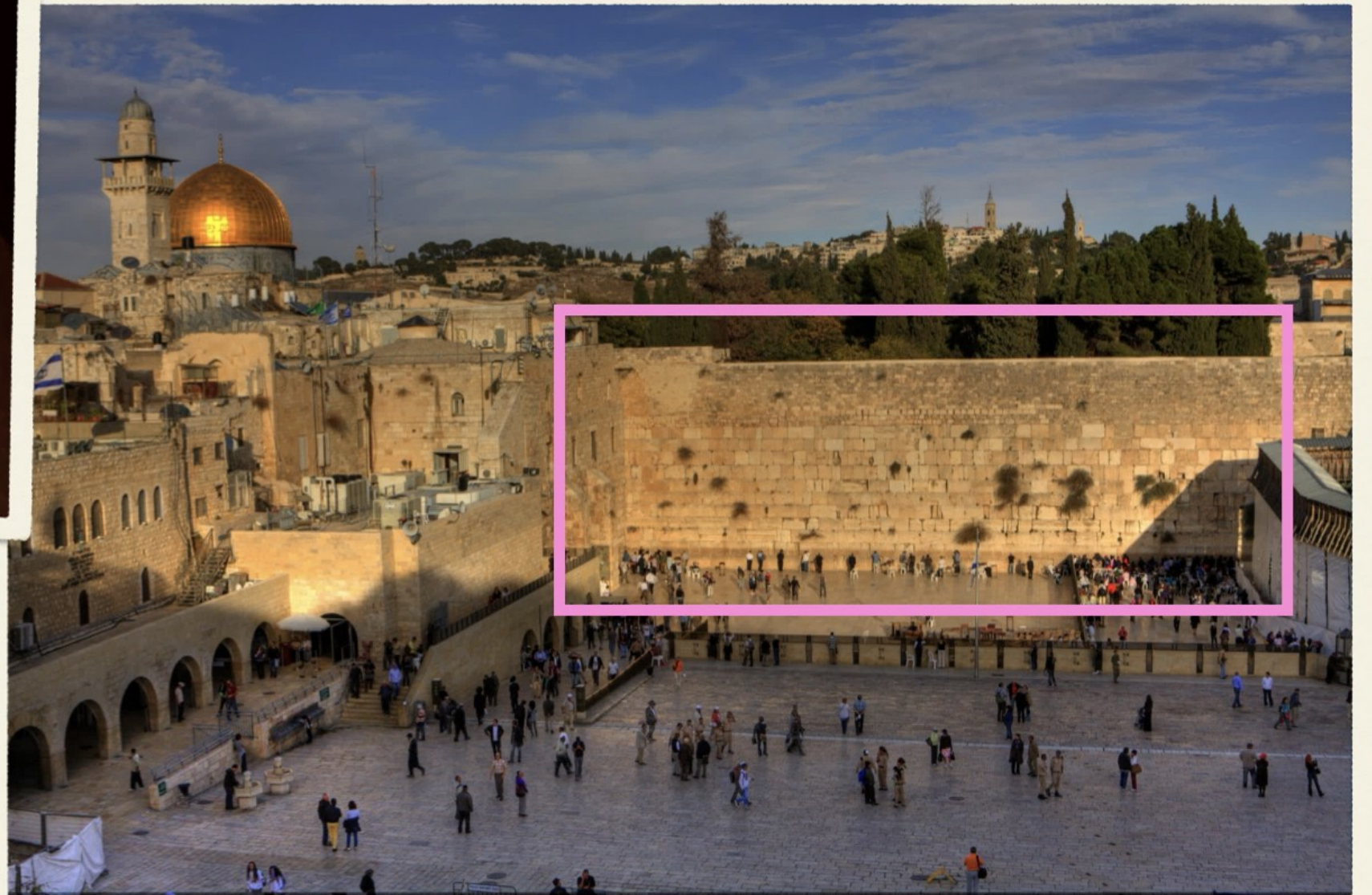


**UNDERCOVER
BOSS**



“But the disease of Herod grew more severe, God inflicting punishment for his crimes. For a slow fire burned in him which was not so apparent to those who touched him, but augmented his internal distress; for he had a terrible desire for food which it was not possible to resist. He was affected also with ulceration of the intestines, and with especially severe pains in the colon, while a watery and transparent humor settled about his feet. He suffered also from a similar trouble in his abdomen. Nay more, his privy member was putrefied and produced worms. He found also excessive difficulty in breathing, and it was particularly disagreeable because of the offensiveness of the odor and the rapidity of respiration.”

Josephus (37-100AD), *Antiquities of the Jews: 17th Volume*



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