

“The Cradle and the Cross”

Matthew 2:1-16; 27:27-54

The varied responses to Jesus at His birth eerily parallel the responses to His death. There is more at stake in our approach to Christmas than mere gift choices or guest lists. Each response to the Christ-child has eternal consequences.

1. Response of Hostility

- **Disguised as Concern (2:3, 7, 8, 16)**

- **Displayed at the Cross (27:27-31)**

2. Response of Indifference

- **Disgusted by the Crisis (2:3-6)**

- **Displayed at the Cross (27:35, 36)**

3. Response of Submission

- **Disruption in the Cosmos (2:1, 2, 9-11)**

- **Displayed at the Cross (27:51, 54)**