Sermon Review February 25, 2024 "An Epiphany"

Matthew 2:1-18

Guest Speaker: Mr. Richard Rose Past President Atlanta NAACP

In light of Black History month, Mr. Rose made some simple but profound thoughts about the history of our race community. We all need to fully understand what oppression is so that indeed we are not oppressed. The only way people can ride your back is that you been over, there is a need for all of us to stand up straight. In our acknowledgement of our situation, we do not have to accept it and for sure we must never become complicit with those who desire to oppress. We all must decide not only what we will say no to, but also decide what we will say yes to. This allows us objectivity and to be a part of an environment that positively broadens and improves our perspectives. These were some of the characteristics of those wise men who went to Jesus upon his birth. The wise men refused to be complicit with the desires of King Herod. They did find the baby Jesus, and they did bring Him gifts, but they did not tell Herod where the child was. They did not return to Herod which allowed for Jesus to eventually fulfill His call as the Messiah. In all of this Jesus refused to be oppressed, He acknowledged His surrounding and His calling and stood up for what God had called Him to be and do. We all would do well to follow His example.

Be Blessed.

Rev. Dr. Keith L. Reynolds, Pastor