

# Second Hand Preacher

## *Epiphany*

January 3, 2016

### **Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**

How do you react to good news? Shouting? Laughter? Maybe it is dancing or perhaps even prayer? Sometimes positive emotions overwhelm us and we don't know how to react and sometimes we even cry. This is how the shepherds and the Wise Men must have reacted to the birth of the Savior. Jesus being born into the world is very good news. That is in part why the four evangelists wrote Gospels, a word that meant Good News, that incorporated the birth, teachings, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus each in their own unique way. Before the Gospels, there were the letters of St. Paul. They told of the Good News by Paul writing to help form the communities he wrote to.

As Paul writes the Christians in Ephesus, he has something important to say about the coming of Jesus. He proclaims that Jesus came for both the Jews and the Gentiles. So even if they were from a different region and were formerly of another faith, they too can receive God's glory through his Son. St. Paul was called to be the Apostle to the Gentiles.

This is really Good News for us as it means we can be saved as well. The Church of Jesus Christ is a universal or catholic Church. With St. Peter as the first Pope, we are connected to a great event that happened 2,000 years ago. This is connected to the feast of the Epiphany, which the Church celebrates this weekend. The Wise Men were from the east. These foreigners were led by a star in order to seek the new born king. This tiny baby united these wise men with the Holy Family in order to show that this King's kingdom will be universal. That star led them like the Holy Spirit leads us. We must follow the Holy Spirit in order to be connected to the Savior of the world.