

THE MAGI VISIT

This is a special Christmas Wise Men test and study for our Tuesday study.

We will begin by studying our lesson text by the following four homiletical points.

- Wise men (2:1) trip from the east
- Worship (2:2) testimony of birth of King of Jews
- Word (2:3-8) truth from prophetic Scriptures
- Wealth (2:9-12) three types of treasures for Jesus

HIS STAR is a main point of the visit of the Magi. This STAR had three different meanings to our passage.

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| • Jacob's Star | (Num.24:17) | Magi's Star | (Matt.2:1-2) |
| • Jewish Star | (Micah 5:2) | Messianic Star | (2:3-8) |
| • Jesus' Star | (Matt.2:4-12) | Morning Star | (Rev.22:16; 2 Pet.1:19) |

**This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the Magi's Visit to Jerusalem
To worship the birth of the King of the Jews.**

1. The Magi visited after Jesus was born.

“Now after Jesus was born (gennao / a.p.ptc) prophetic birth/ born precedes arrived) in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived (paraginomai / a.m.ind) in Jerusalem.”
(Matt.2: 1)

HIS STAR appeared to the Magi in the East announcing the birth of the king of the Jews before they arrived in Jerusalem.

When the Magi arrive and spoke to King Herod, they requested an audience with the recently born King of the Jews (Gentile terminology / Matt.27: 37, 42). They used the word (tikto/ actual or historical birth) for “He who has been born/ a.p.ptc.” (2:2)

2. His Star led the Magi to the land of the King of the Jews but not to the city or house or child (Matt.2: 1-2).

“I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near; a STAR shall come forth from Jacob, and a scepter shall rise from Israel, and shall crush through the forehead of Moab, and tear down all the sons of Sheth.”
(Num.24:17)

The Magi were members of the oldest fraternity of wise men of the world. Daniel was a prominent member of them during his Babylonian captivity. “No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. (Dan.2: 27-28; 5:12)

3. The Magi visited Jesus in a HOUSE and not a stable.

“And they came into the house and saw the child with Mary His mother.” (Matt.2:11)

The Greek word for child is paidion (Matt.2: 7-9,11). Herod ascertained from the magi the time the star appeared to them (2:7). Based on this data, Herod killed all the male children 2 years and under in the Bethlehem area (Matt.2:16).

Therefore the Magi visit to Jesus was the second Christmas after His birth. Remember this when you have the manger scene.

Note that after they left Herod, HIS STAR reappeared and led to the house (Matt.2: 9-11). *A star on top of our Christmas tree reminds us of this story and that Jesus is the prophetic King and Savior of world.*

4. The Gentile Magi came to worship the King of the Jews while the king of the Jews plotted how to kill Him (Matt.2:2, 16).

“And have come (erchomai/ a.a.ind) to worship (proskuneo/ a.a.infin) Him.” (Matt.2:2)

“And when they came (erchomai / a.a.ptc) into the house and saw (horao / a.a.ind) the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell down (pipto / a.a.ptc) and worshiped (proskuneo / a.a.ind) Him.” (2:11)

Horao is used four times with the Magi and His Star (2:2,9,10,11). *The lights on the Christmas tree reminds us that we are lights of Jesus to a world of darkness that need to see the need to worship Him.*

5. The Magi brought three types of gifts fit for a king to Jesus (Matt.2:11).

They are called treasures (tous thesauros). These refer to the containers in which the gifts were carried.

They presented to Jesus three type of gifts: gold (unique king), frankincense (unique life), and myrrh (unique death) (SOS 3:6). Their gifts were associated with worship of Jesus Christ.

The gifts under our Christmas trees remind us that God's gave us the greatest gift of grace salvation by faith in the gospel of Christ (Eph.2: 8-9).

The gift of perfume reminds us of the special gifts offered by the Magi as part of their worship of Jesus.

Here are three final Christmas questions.

- Why didn't the Magi pay their respects to king Herod before leaving Israel? (2;12)
- How did God speak to them regarding leaving for home? (2:12)
- How did king Herod view the untimely departure of the Magi? (2:16)