

The Prophet and the Messiah

The Journey to Find the King

Matthew 2:1-12

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Introduction:

- **Isaiah 40:3**
 - **John 1:29-31**
 - **Matthew 2:1-12**
 - Greek – Magos ... English – Magi ... means ... “*Wise Man, Magician, Astrologer combining both secular and religious aspect of knowledge and understanding, a priest.*”
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1. The Magi:

- Matthew 2:1-2**
- The Magi go to Jerusalem because that was the capital of Israel.
- The announcement of the long-awaited Messiah did not come to the King or the Religious Elite – It came to shepherds.
- Consider Three Things:
 - Gentiles will have full access to the King.
 - Gentiles will be called to worship Him.
 - Christ would be the King of the Gentiles, too – as He is all people.
- Why is it that with all the great minds of the Pharisees, Sadducees, and the Teachers of the Law, that no one saw the star that the Magi followed for months?
- Miracle** ... “*An effect or extraordinary event in the physical world that surpasses all known human or natural powers and is ascribed to a supernatural cause.*”

2. Herod the Baby Killer:

- Herod was not all that great – he was vicious and cruel.
- History does not prove the Bible, the Bible proves history.
- Matthew 2:3-6**
- Two questions must be asked when we read this passage:
 - Why was Herod so disturbed when he heard that the King of the Jews had been born?
 - Why is all of Israel disturbed by it?

- e. That is the epitome of arrogance and conceit, to think you can stop the Hand of God from doing His Will ... OR ... To think that if you just don't believe it, then God isn't real.

3. **A New Direction:**

- a. **Matthew 2:9-12**
- b. Greek – **Proskyneo** ... English – **Worship** ... means ... *“To express an attitude and one's allegiance to and regard for a deity ... To bow down.”*
- c. Meeting the Lord has a way of changing your direction, doesn't it?
- d. **One final question to ask and answer:**
 - i. Was Herod capable of killing innocent babies?
- e. Herod was not great at all – Herod was a baby killer.