



THE GOSPEL OF
MATTHEW



Matthew 2:1–4

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.



Matthew 2:5–8

⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶ “AND YOU, O BETHLEHEM, IN THE LAND OF JUDAH, ARE BY NO MEANS LEAST AMONG THE RULERS OF JUDAH; FOR FROM YOU SHALL COME A RULER WHO WILL SHEPHERD MY PEOPLE ISRAEL.””

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”



Matthew 2:9–12

⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



A Born King (2:1–2)

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,
² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”



A Born King (2:1–2)

John 7:40–42: ⁴⁰ ...some of the people said, “This really is the Prophet.” ⁴¹ Others said, “This is the Christ.” But some said, “Is the Christ to come from Galilee? ⁴² Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?” ⁴³ So there was a division among the people over him.



Bethlehem of Judah (2:1–2)

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² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”



Bethlehem of Judah (2:1–2)

Genesis 49:10: The scepter shall not depart from Judah...



Bethlehem of Judah (2:1–2)

Luke 2:11: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.



Herod: A Paranoid King (2:1–4)

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The Magi: Unexpected Worshipers (2:1–4)

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Bethlehem: A Fulfilled Prophecy (2:3–6)

³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶ “AND YOU, O BETHLEHEM, IN THE LAND OF JUDAH, ARE BY NO MEANS LEAST AMONG THE RULERS OF JUDAH; FOR FROM YOU SHALL COME A RULER WHO WILL SHEPHERD MY PEOPLE ISRAEL.””



Bethlehem: A Fulfilled Prophecy (2:3–6)

Micah 5:2: But you, O Bethlehem **Ephrathah**, who are **too little** to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

Matthew 2:6: “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of **Judah**, are by **no means least** among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel [2 Samuel 5:2].”



Herod's Plot: Commissioning the Magi (2:7–8)

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”



Herod's Plot: Commissioning the Magi (2:7–8)

Psalm 2:1–2: ¹ Why do... the peoples plot in vain? ² The kings of the earth take their stand, and the rulers conspire together against the LORD and his Anointed One.



Worshiping the King (2:9–12)

⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



Worshiping the King (2:9–12)

1 Kings 10: ² She came to Jerusalem with a very great retinue, with camels bearing spices and very much gold and precious stones. ¹⁰ Then she gave the king 120 talents of gold, and a very great quantity of spices and precious stones... ²⁴ And the whole earth sought the presence of Solomon to hear his wisdom, which God had put into his mind. ²⁵ Every one of them brought his present, articles of silver and gold, garments, myrrh, spices, horses, and mules, so much year by year.



Worshiping the King (2:9–12)

Matthew 12:42: The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.



Following the Star (2:1–12)

¹ ...wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.

⁹ And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.

¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.



Following the Star (2:1–12)

Numbers 24:17: ...a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel...



Following the Star (2:1–12)

Isaiah 9:2, 6: ² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone... ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.



Following the Star

Revelation 12:1–5: ¹ And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. ² She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. ³ And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. ⁴ His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. ⁵ She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne...



Following the Star (2:1–12)

Revelation 22:16: “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

Comet Lovejoy

by NASA astronaut
Dan Burbank

International Space Station

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