

Matthew Chapter 2

In this chapter, we have the history of our Saviour's infancy, where we find how early he began to suffer, and that in him the word of righteousness was fulfilled.

1. the coming of the Magi is Ch 2: 1-12, Wise men from the east come to honor Jesus.
2. the flight into Egypt 2:13-15,
3. the slaughter of the children 2:16-18, and
4. the return from Egypt 2:19-23. /* Matthew – Leviticus */

1. The Visit of the Magi – “Wise Men” (KJB)

[[Matthew 2:1]] Now when Jesus was born in **Bethlehem** of Judaea in the days of **Herod the king**, behold, there came **wise men** from the **east** to Jerusalem,

MAGI OR WISE MEN (KJB)

- devoted themselves to the study of the moral and physical sciences, and particularly cultivated astrology and medicine. Barjesus (Acts 13) was apparently one. This was going on as far back as Genesis 41:8 with Pharaoh.

wise men' - (astronomers); there were not only three, but probably a great company. The name Magi comes from the Greek word *magoi*. It is translated as 'wise men' in the King James Version and is used four times in the New Testament.

How many magi were there?

It doesn't say THREE wise men. It's tradition. They have 3 gifts, doesn't necessarily mean 3 wise men. Pharaoh had his own version of 'wise men' –

Exodus 7:11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.

'Bethlehem' - house of bread. Christ says "I am the bread". That's where the bread of life is born.

'east' - they are traveling east to west. That is the good direction of the gospels.

East is the bad direction in the Bible

/* The wise man came out of the east. */

- ❖ When the OT priests left the tabernacle it was east to west.
- ❖ The movement of the gospels is east to west. (see Bible map)
- ❖ sun - east to west - the sun is a picture of Christ. The light of the world. See Malachi 4:2.

- Adam and Eve left the garden west to east.
- Cain (Gen. 4) went east.
- Jacob ran from Esau and went east.

The world moves west to east. The world is against Christ.

The 'sun' is the life of the world.

God is north. North is the direction towards God.

Job 38:37 Who can number the clouds in wisdom? or who can stay the bottles of heaven,

But, Egypt and Arabia are south of Palestine.

> [[Matthew 2:2]] Saying, Where is he that is born **King** of the Jews? for **we have seen his star** in the east, and are come to worship him.

'we have seen his star' – (link 2 verses)

Numbers 24:17 I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

Genesis 49:10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him [shall] the gathering of the people [be].

The star was angel of the Lord pointing out the place of His own birth. The angel of the Lord is an 'appearance' ('theophany') of Jesus Christ.

In Revelation 1:20 an angel is said to be a star.

Revelation 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the **angels** of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

Matthew 2:5 And they said unto him, In **Bethlehem** of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, **'Behlehem' - house of bread**

They knew Micah 5:2. Matthew does not quote the exact words of the prophet Micah, but the sense.

Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, [though] thou be **little** among the thousands of Judah, - **His humanity** [yet] out of thee shall he come forth unto me [that is] to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth [have been] from of old, from everlasting. - **Creator and angel of the Lord**

The star is the angel of the Lord. Star is either a heavenly body or an angel.

God's purpose is to lead a man directly to Christ. As the angel of the Lord led the people through the wilderness in the OT.

The three gifts picture three parts to His ministry. (prophet, priest and king). (Some say there were more wise men/gifts.)

- 1st coming - as a prophet
- This age - as a priest.
- 2nd coming - as a king. Gold is highest. Solomon overlaid the temple with gold. The gold pictures Christ's ministry as king.

* **Gold** - king - deity - the gold was presented to the infant King in token of His royalty

* **'frankensence'** - priest - incense was burned at the altar

* **Myrrh** - prophet

* **Speaks of His death and His prophetic ministry as a prophet.**

So we see that the myrrh that was given to Jesus at the beginning of His life here on earth shows up again at the end of His life.

2. The Escape to Egypt

The devil appears as an angel of light so you shouldn't listen to things that are contrary to the scripture.

Satin has always tried to destroy the seed of the deliverer so Herod is a type of the antichrist. The antichrist shows up in Revelation 13. Pharaoh is another type of the antichrist. Christ cant be destroyed until His time has come -

Egypt is a picture of the world. - 'out of Egypt'

[[Matthew 2:15]] And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, **Out of Egypt have I called my son.**

The Matthew 2 - Exodus connection. (The historical application)

- **Historically** it applies to Israel (God's son being taken out of Egypt).
- **Doctrinally** its to God's literal Son (Christ).
- **Prophetically** it applies to us (Sons of God) being called out of the world. The rapture of the body of Christ.

3. The slaughter of the children

[[Matthew 2:16 -18]] - **Knowledge obtained from the wise men.**

'Rachel' - a picture of Israel /* picture - like Abraham sacrificing Isaac */

Rachel, the Nation of Israel

Rachel, according to Scripture, shall bear fruit.

4. The Return from Egypt

The return to Nazareth., God speaks to Joseph again in a dream, through an angel of the Lord; and again, we notice Joseph's quick obedience. Notice how the young Child is given first place in the narrative.

[[Matthew 2:22]] But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: