

Where is the King?

Matthew 2: 1-12

What an interesting account recorded in the pages of God's Word. It reveals a time of journeys and joy, hatred and hope, seeking and stars, gifts and glory, recognition and redemption; all of this surrounding the birth of our Lord.

Our world is much different than it was 2,000 years ago; and yet, it is much the same. Let's take a journey back in time and consider the [events](#) surrounding the birth of Jesus as we think on the question: [Where is the King?](#)

I. The Curiosity of the Wise (2) – These wise men from the east had come to Jerusalem in search of the Christ child, King of the Jews. They had traveled a great distance to find the Lord. Their journey must've been in the neighborhood of 2 years, [Vv.7, 16](#).

- They had left their homes, families, and comforts to journey to a strange land in search of the King. The purpose of their journey is very clear, to worship the King of kings. God had placed the star to guide them unto Jesus.
- Wouldn't Christmas be wonderful if everyone were interested in seeking Jesus? The wise still seek Him! He is the reason for the season. Without Christ, there would be no Christmas. The modern world has commercialized it so that folks no longer see the reason we celebrate. It has become centered on Santa and gifts. Christmas isn't just a holiday; it is a holy day! I pray the Spirit of God will speak to men's hearts that they would seek Jesus this Christmas.
- It is often easy to become consumed with schedules, gifts, and tradition, and lose our focus on the Lord. How would we feel if at our birthday, no one even noticed we were there? Jesus gets that a lot each year. I want to seek Him and thank Him for my precious gift. Have you sought the King this Christmas?

I. The Curiosity of the Wise (2)

II. The Contempt of the Wicked (3-4, 16) – Herod became very troubled at the thought of another King. He was a wicked man who wanted to destroy anyone or anything that might threaten his reign. He wanted to find Jesus and kill Him. This is evident by the slaughter of all the male children, [v.16](#).

- It didn't take long for men to want to take Christ out of Christmas. No doubt Herod's actions were the result of Satan's influence. He certainly didn't want Jesus to make it to the cross.
- Isn't it amazing how history repeats itself? Many in our day are at work to remove Christ from Christmas. I never thought I would see this day in America. When I was a child, everyone knew what Christmas was about. I played the part of Joseph in a school play. Even folks who didn't go to church recognized Christmas as the birth of Christ.
- Now there is a push to replace Merry Christmas with Happy Holidays. We don't want to offend the Muslims. It is a Christian holiday! Satan knows this is a special time of year when the world gets a 1st hand witness of the birth of Christ. I pray we will stand up and declare that Christmas isn't just a secular holiday, but a Christian holy day! Let's instill in our children the reason for Christmas, the birth of Christ, not Santa Claus and big presents.

I. The Curiosity of the Wise (2)

II. The Contempt of the Wicked (3-4, 16)

III. The Clarity of the Witness (9-10) – As the wise men renewed their search, the star lead them to the house where Jesus was. God had hung a star in heaven to announce that Christ had come. This was no ordinary birth, not just another child; this was the Son of God, the Messiah, Emmanuel - God with us, Savior of the world!

- He lived a life of humility, but all of heaven declared His birth. There was no mistake, the King had come. The angels proclaimed the joyous message to the shepherds, [Luke 2:10-14](#).

- He was the promised One. His prophecy had been fulfilled. It was seen in [Gen.3](#) – garden; [Gen.22](#) – Mt. Moriah; [Ex.12](#) – Passover; [Is.6:9](#) – For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be on his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
- The scribes in [v.5](#) referred to prophecy in [Micah 5:2](#) – But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, 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.
- The Messiah had come and many wouldn't see. John cried in the wilderness, [Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world](#). Jesus came unto His own and His own received Him not. The Jews of that day rejected the abundant witness of Scripture, but Christ had come! Many today turn a deaf ear, but the Spirit still bears witness to Him. It is impossible to look at Christmas with an open heart and miss Jesus. If you'll only look, you will see!

I. The Curiosity of the Wise (2)

II. The Contempt of the Wicked (3-4, 16)

III. The Clarity of the Witness (9-10)

IV. The Christ of our Worship (11) – I have tried to imagine the joy and splendor they felt as they came into the house. After all their searching, they had found the King. They immediately fell and worshipped Him. They may have expected Him to be older, but they knew this was the King.

- Do you remember the joy you felt when you first met Jesus? I suppose that is similar to what they felt. Christmas should remind us of the precious gift we received in Christ. It is His birthday, but we got the gift. Oh, what a gift!
- I don't have time to preach on the gifts, but they have great significance to us. The gold speaks of His deity, the only begotten of the Father, God in the flesh. The frankincense was used by the priest on the altar. This speaks of our Great High Priest, our Intercessor. Myrrh was obtained from a thorny tree and used primarily for embalming the dead. It speaks of the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross. We have reason to rejoice tonight.

- Christmas is a special time for the believer. It is beyond what I can comprehend, that Jesus would leave the glory of heaven to die for me. It's amazing that He came at all! Let us worship Jesus this Christmas season. He is the reason!

Christmas has different meaning for different people. I trust you have been reminded of what it is all about. I am challenged by the question of the Magi, where is He that is born King of the Jews? I have met Him; I know Him personally, but I still want to seek Him!

Have you enquired about Jesus lately? If you haven't met Him, please allow me to introduce you to the King. I can assure you that Christmas will never be the same.