

Visions and Revelations

Message Six: The Wise Men and the Star (Part One)

A. God's heart desire

Matthew 28:19: Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...

Acts 1:8: ...you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

B. The Wise Men—the conclusion of the visions that changed the dispensation.

- a. Joseph—to save His people from their sins
- b. Zechariah—to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death
- c. Mary—to fill the hungry with good things
- d. Shepherds—on earth peace be with those with whom He is pleased
- e. All the above are concluded by the vision of the Wise Men

C. The Wise Men and the Star

- a. They are deep in philosophy and full of wisdom
- b. Searching intensely for the purpose of human existence
- c. Profound pursuing of the meaning of the Universe
- d. Knew that at that time, the whole earth had only one religion with God—Judaism
- e. Willing to pay all the price in order to gain the Truth

D. They saw the star that witnessed “the Word became flesh”

- a. In the Bible, stars typify human beings
- b. The appearing of the bright star witnessed “the Word became flesh”
- c. The wise men followed that star and embarked upon a difficult and

treacherous pilgrimage from the East all the way to Jerusalem. For this pursuit, they had to put forth at least a year-and-a-half journey.

- d. Their pursuit contrasting to:
 - i. Herod—living only for his own power
 - ii. Priests and Scribes—knowledgeable of truths but not their reality
- E. They found the child Jesus and offered up gold, frankincense and myrrh, testifying:
 - a. Gold—Jesus is the Son of God; He is the first God-man, the first man of God
 - b. Myrrh—all-inclusive death of the God-Man
 - c. Frankincense—fragrant and all-surpassing resurrection of the Man-God
- F. Jesus went down to Egypt
 - a. Herod killed all the male children in Bethlehem, in all that region who were two years old and under.
 - b. This mixture of religion and politics would be seen again in:
 - i. The crucifixion of Jesus by Pontius Pilate, by the urging of the priests and elders.
 - ii. The persecution of the church in Jerusalem by Herod, who saw that the killing of James pleased the Jews.
 - iii. The persecution of the apostles as they spread the gospel in Acts.
 - c. The trip to Egypt typifies the rejection of Jesus by the Jews, but His gaining of a testimony among the Gentiles—the Gospel came unto the Gentiles because of the Jews’ unbelief (Antioch in Pisidia)

Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, “It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.” (Acts 13:46)

Matthew 2:1–18, New King James Version

2 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 have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

³ When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

⁵ So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah,
Are not the least among the rulers of Judah;
For out of you shall come a Ruler
Who will shepherd My people Israel.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”

⁹ When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. ¹¹ And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

¹² Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.”

¹⁴ When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, ¹⁵ and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.”

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah,
Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning,
Rachel weeping *for* her children,
Refusing to be comforted,
Because they are no more.”