# The Wisdom of *Christmas*

7 The beginning of wisdom is this:
Get wisdom. Though it cost all you
have, get understanding.

Proverbs 4:7 (NIV)

Wisdom of Christmas

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

James 1:5 (NIV)

Wisdom of Christmas

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, [2] “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.” [3] King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. [4] He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”

Matthew 2:1-4

Wisdom of Christmas

5 “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they said, “for this is what
the prophet wrote:
6 ‘And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah,
are not least among the ruling cities of Judah,
for a ruler will come from you who will be the
shepherd for my people Israel.’ ”

7 Then Herod called for a private meeting with the
wise men, and he learned from them the time when
the star first appeared.

Matthew 2:5-7

Wisdom of Christmas

8 Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search
carefully for the child. And when you find him, come
back and tell me so that I can go and worship him,
too!” 9 After this interview the wise men went their
way. And the star they had seen in the east guided
them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and
stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When
they saw the star, they were filled with joy!

Matthew 2:8-10

[11] They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

[12] When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

Matthew 2:11-12

[11] They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

[12] When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

Matthew 2:11-12

# Who were the Magi?

Wisdom of Christmas

# The Probable Daniel Connection

48 Then the king appointed Daniel to a high position and gave him many valuable gifts. He made Daniel ruler over the whole province of Babylon, as well as chief over all his wise men.

Daniel 2:48 (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas

# The Probable Daniel Connection

17 I see him, but not here and now. I perceive
him, but far in the distant future. A star will
rise from Jacob; a scepter will emerge from
Israel.

Numbers 24:17a (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas

# The Magi Probably Inherited:

- Messianic Expectation
- Prophetic Timing Awareness
- Jewish Scripture Exposure

Wisdom of Christmas

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, [2] "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? ***We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.***"

Matthew 2:1–2 (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas


WISDOM
Keynotes

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, [2] "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? ***We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.***"

Matthew 2:1–2 (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas

# Wisdom responds to Revelation with movement

Wisdom of Christmas

22 But don’t just listen to God’s word. You must do
what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling
yourselves. 23 For if you listen to the word and
don’t obey, it is like glancing at your face in a
mirror. 24 You see yourself, walk away, and forget
what you look like. 25 But if you look carefully into
the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do
what it says and don’t forget what you heard,
then God will bless you for doing it.

James 1:22–25 (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas

# Respond by Obeying the Word of God

22 But don't just listen to God's word. ***You must do what it says***. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. 23 For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. 24 You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like.

James 1:22–24 (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas

# Respond by Studying the Word of God

25 But if you ***look carefully*** into the perfect law that sets you free....

James 1:25a (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas

# Respond by Remembering the Word of God

But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and ***<u>don't forget what you heard</u>***, then God will bless you for doing it.

James 1:25 (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas

# Wisdom Responds with Movement

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men
from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, [2]
“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? ***We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.***”

Matthew 2:1–2 (NLT)

Wisdom of Christmas


WISDOM
Keynotes