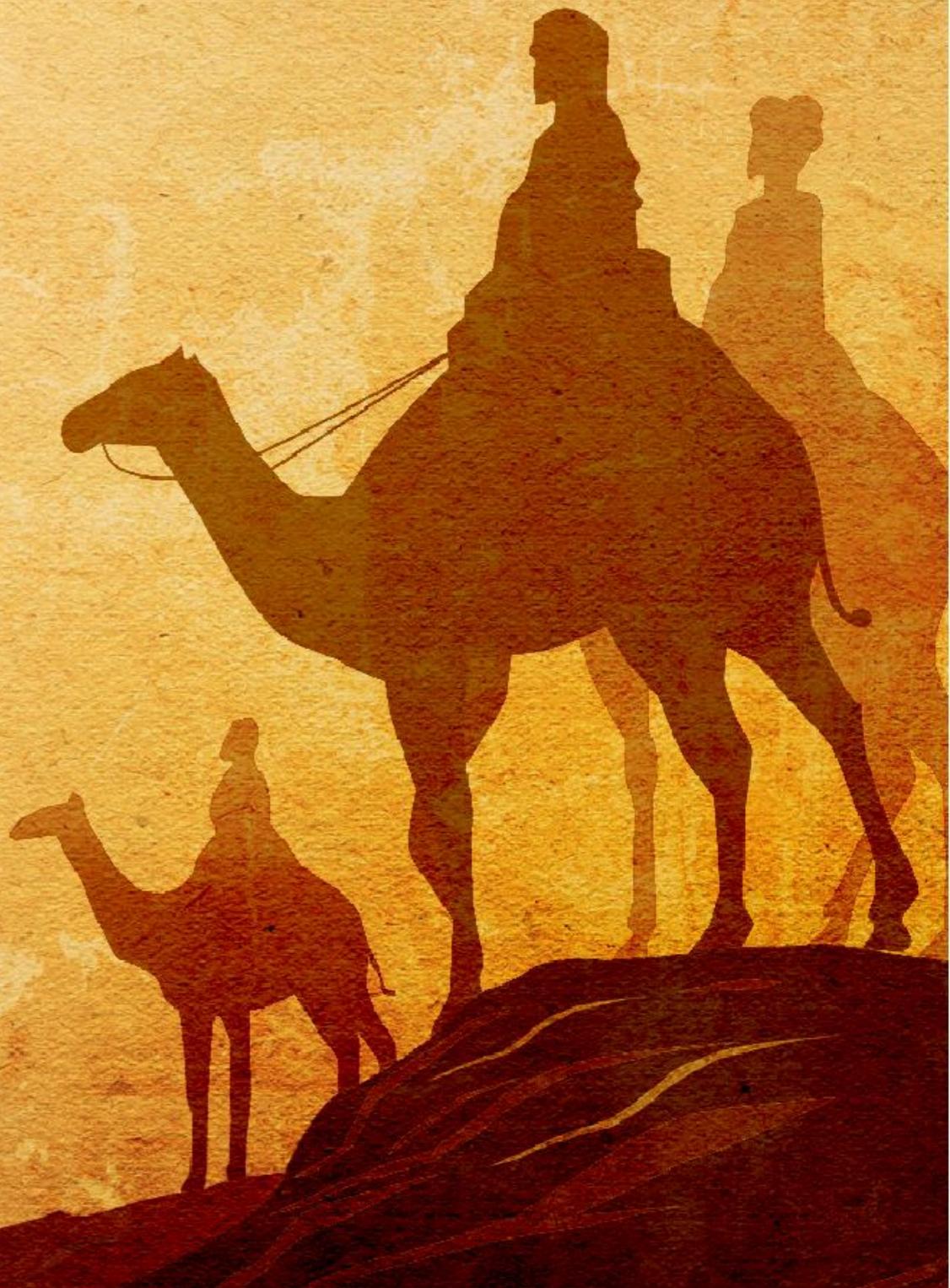


Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Jeremiah 31:31—33



Prophecy Fulfilled

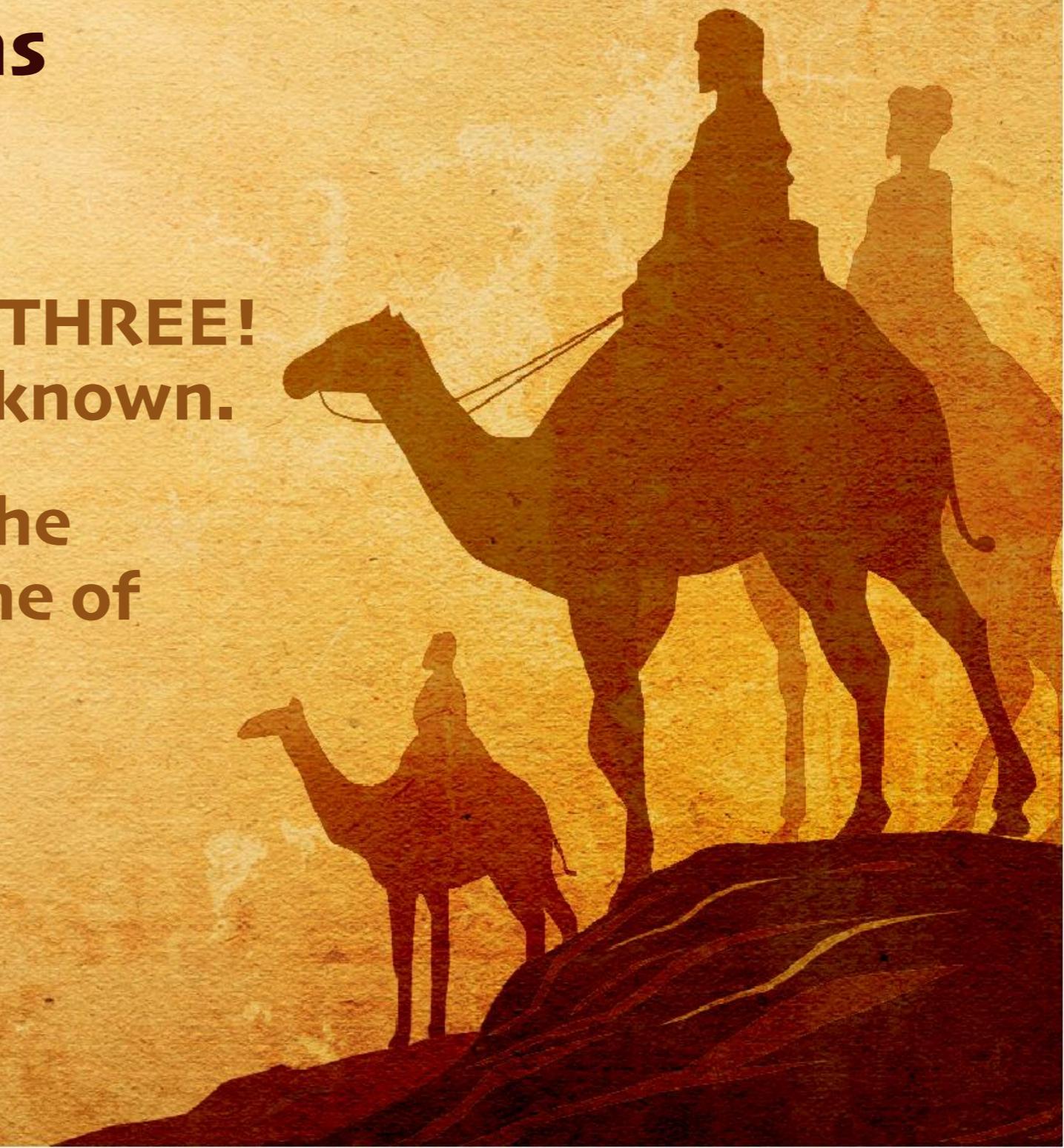
Matthew 2:1-12



Question: Who Are These Magi?

Dispelling The Myths

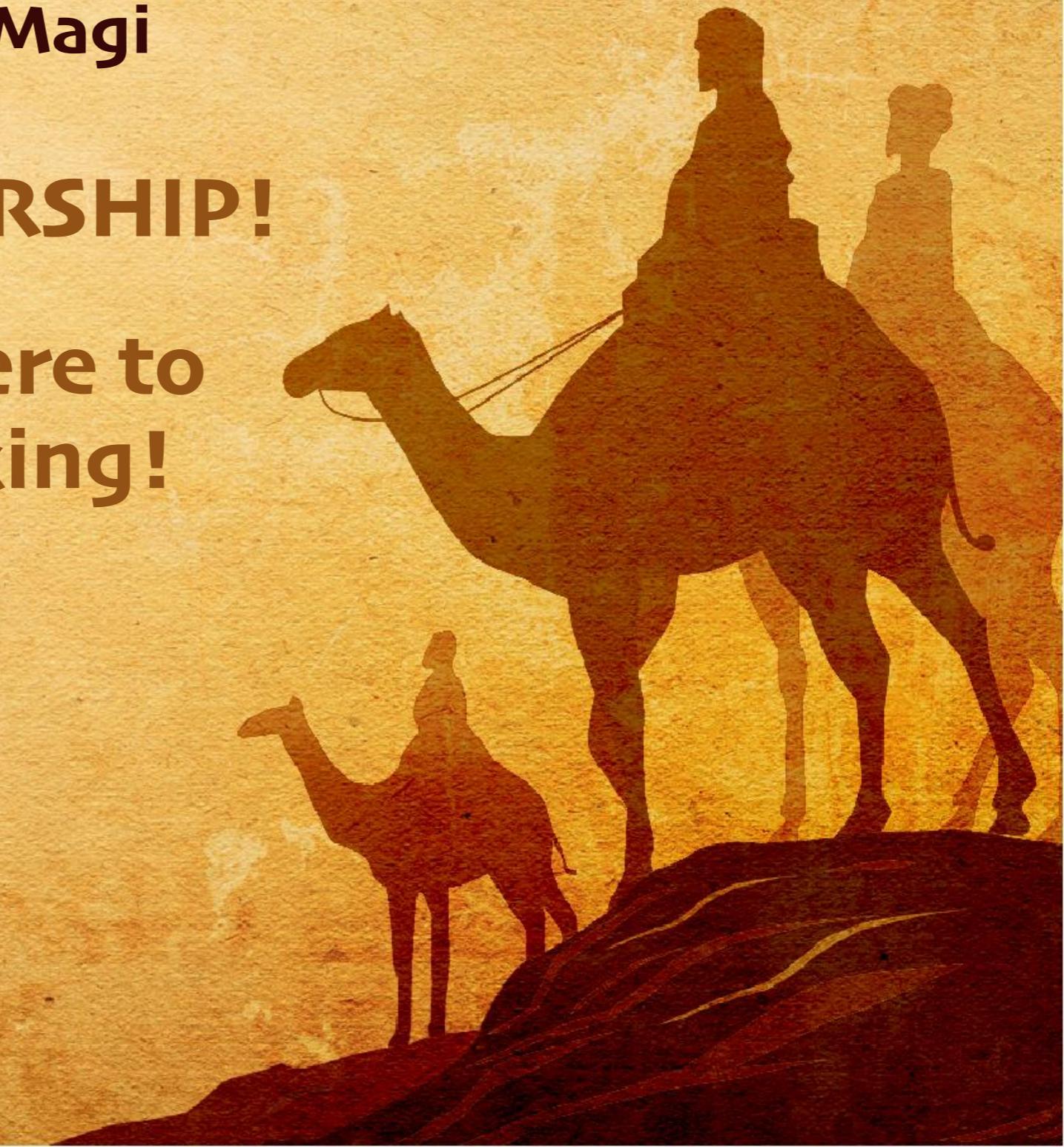
- Magi are NOT KINGS!
- There were more than THREE!
The Magi number is unknown.
- They did not come to the manger, but to the home of Mary and Joseph!



Question: Who Are These Magi?

The Purpose of the Magi

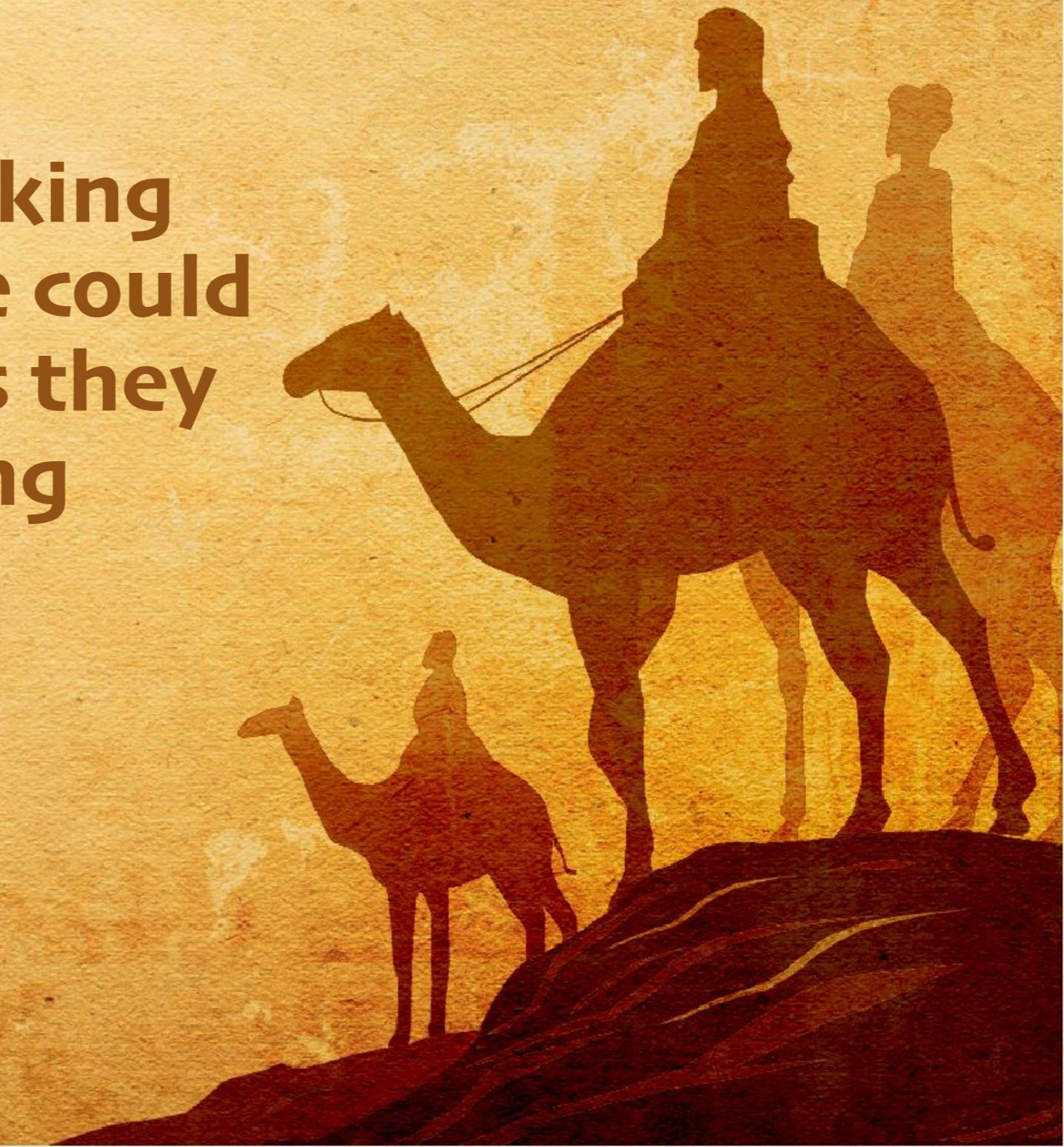
- Magi came to WORSHIP!
- The Magi were there to appoint the next king!



Question: Who Are These Magi?

KEYNOTE:

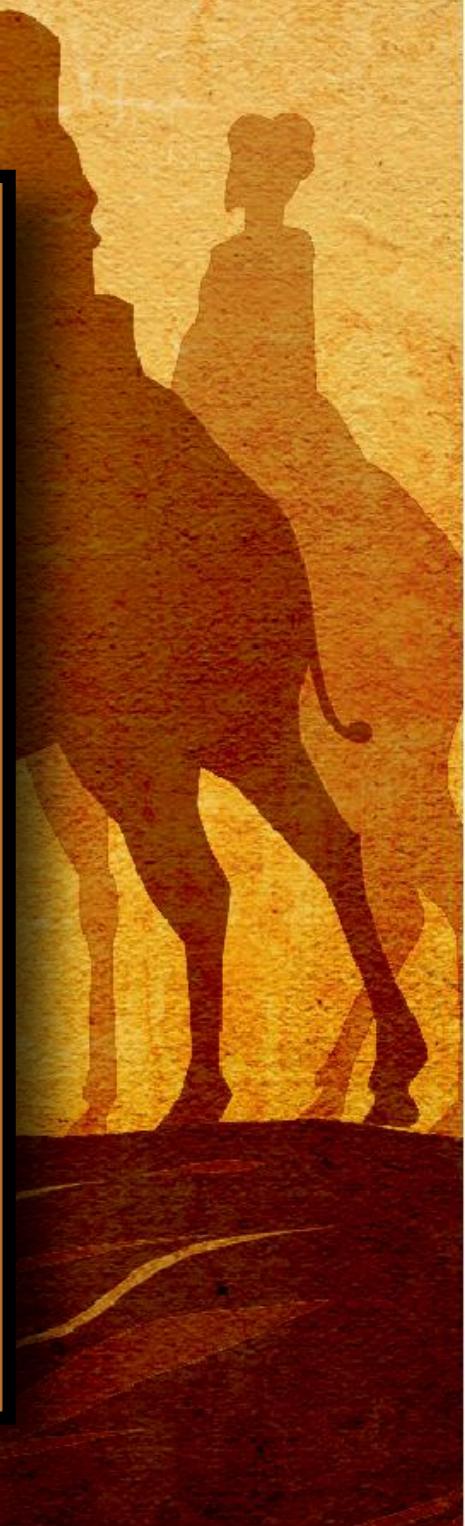
The Magi were the king makers, and no one could become king unless they appointed them king



Historical and Biblical Background of the Magi

Who they were

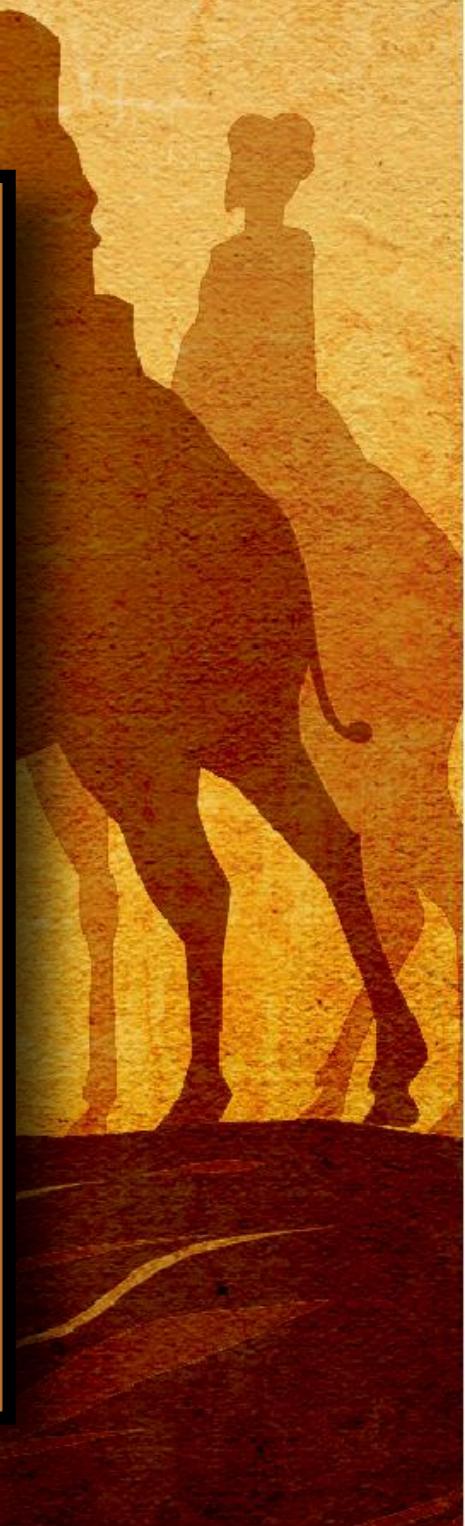
- An old priestly tribe
- A very religious tribe
- They arose to have significant influence
- Daniel was anointed Chief Magi in Daniel 5:11 and Daniel taught them the Old Testament
- They adopted some aspects of Zoroastrianism and learned about the stars
- By the time of Christ, they had a very hybrid religious system, and possessed great power. They controlled the judicial offices namely: selecting kings and balancing power.



Historical and Biblical Background of the Magi

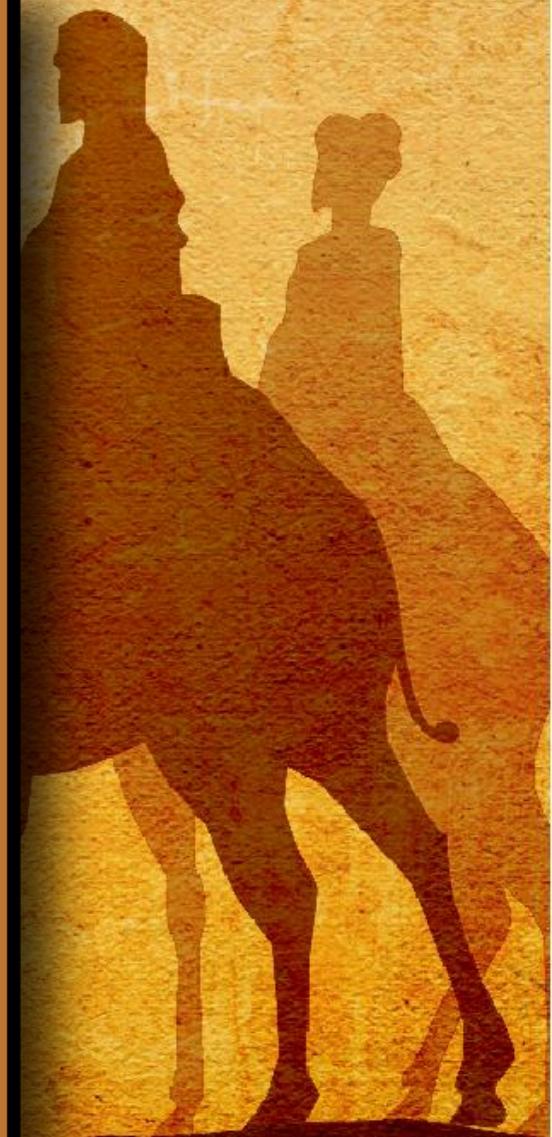
How they knew about the Messiah?

- The Story of the Babylonian captivity is key
- It is believed that the Prophet Daniel highly influenced them as he was made Chief of the Magi
- He communicated to them the promise of the coming Messiah



Why Their Worship Matters for Matthew (and for Us)

- The Magi confirm that Jesus is the promised King of the Jews.
- the Magi prove that Jesus is the King of the whole world—not just Israel
- They both had a hereditary priesthood and both believed in blood sacrifice
- The magi gained wisdom by some form of divination while the Jews received wisdom from God through signs and prophets



Question for Consideration:

Who Will You Crown This Christmas?



Invitation:
Bow now while grace is offered;
one day every knee will bow
(Phil 2:9-11)

