

# The Servant's Onlookers

*December 17, 2023* | Pastor Matt Kaiser

***Matthew 2:1-12; Luke 2:8-21***

What was the reaction to the arrival of Jesus?

## ***THE ARRIVAL AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT:***

The Place: Bethlehem of Judea

The Times: Rule of Herod the king

(Idumean)

(Roman appointee)

The Surprise Arrival: The Wise Men

“Magoi”

What they saw: a star

- How did they associate a star with a king, especially Israel?  
Balaam's Prophecy (Numbers 24:17)
- Traveled to a logical place

## ***THE FOURFOLD RESPONSE***

**1. Herod - a picture of those hostile to God**

Troubled:

**2. All Jerusalem - a picture of those barely interested in God**

### 3. The Chief Priests and Scribes - a picture of those apathetic toward God

Micah's Prophecy (Micah 5):

5 miles to Bethlehem -

### 4. The Wise Men - a picture of those who seek God

Response:

a. They were overwhelmed with joy.

b. Found them and fell down

Object of their worship: Jesus, not Mary.

c. Offered Him gifts fit for a king.

Gold: His deity (Psalm 72:15)

Incense: the fragrance of His life (Isaiah 60:6)

Myrrh: His sacrifice and death (Psalm 45:8; Song 3:6)