

Episode 48 — "What the Wise Men Knew" *Cornerstone Today* | Matthew 2:1–12

Episode Summary

In Episode 48 of *Cornerstone Today*, we step into Matthew 2:1–12 and follow a group of foreign scholars who travel hundreds of miles chasing a star — and what they find changes everything. We unpack who the Magi actually were: not kings, not necessarily three, but educated Gentile outsiders who had no Torah, no covenant history, no inside track — and yet they're the ones who show up to worship. We look at the unsettling contrast between Herod's paranoia and the religious leaders who knew exactly where the Messiah would be born but couldn't be bothered to make the five-mile trip to Bethlehem. We walk through what the star did, what the gifts meant, and why Matthew opens his Gospel with this story of outsiders bowing before a Jewish toddler in a small Judean house. And we land on the question that doesn't let go: are we the people with all the right answers who never actually make the trip — or are we willing, like the Magi, to follow the light we have and trust it leads somewhere real?

In This Episode

- Who the Magi actually were — and what the tradition got wrong
- Why Matthew opens his Gospel with Gentile outsiders
- Herod's hidden agenda and the paranoia behind the palace meeting
- The chief priests and scribes who knew the answer but never made the trip
- What gold, frankincense, and myrrh each signify
- The question this passage leaves every reader with

Key Scriptures

- Matthew 2:1–12
- Micah 5:2 — the prophecy naming Bethlehem

Next Episode

Episode 49 — "*When God Says Run*" — Matthew 2:13–23 The flight to Egypt, the massacre of the innocents, and what it means when following God leads somewhere hard. Thursday.

About This Series

Cornerstone Today is a verse-by-verse journey through the New Testament. New episodes every Tuesday and Thursday and Friday.