

Hey Magi, Are You Ready?

December 26, 2021

Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV) – “Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”.

Revelation 1:7 (NIV) - “Look, He is coming with the clouds”, and “every eye will see Him, even those who pierced Him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of Him”. So shall it be! Amen.

“Waiting for His return is not passive, it is an active purifying of our lives in the pursuit of holiness in readiness for our Lord” – **Alan S. Bandy**

Matthew 2:1-2 (NIV) – “After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ‘Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him’”.

“**Magi**” = Greek *magoi* - “an (Oriental) astrologer, by implication a magician”

Acts 13:6 (NIV) – “They traveled through the whole island until they came to Paphos. There they met a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Bar-Jesus”.

Matthew 11:25-26 (NIV) – At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do”.

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Daniel 4:9 (NIV) – I said, “Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you, and no mystery is too difficult for you. Here is my dream; interpret it for me”.

Numbers 24:17a (NIV) – “I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel”.

Matthew 2:3-5a (NIV) – “When King Herod heard this, he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ‘In Bethlehem in Judea’, they replied, ‘for it is written’.

Matthew 2:7-8 (NIV) – Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find Him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship Him”.

Matthew 2:16 (NIV) – “When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi”.

“Jesus of Nazareth is so potent a factor in the world of mind that, no sooner is He there in His utmost weakness, a now-born King, than He begins to reign. Before He mounts the throne, friends bring Him presents, and His enemies compass His death” – **Charles Spurgeon**

Matthew 2:9-12 (NIV) – “After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it

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stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route”.

“Those who look for Jesus will see Him; those who truly see Him will worship Him; those who worship Him will consecrate their substance to Him” – ***Charles Spurgeon***