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ADVENTURES IN TRUTH
DISCOVER THE FRANKINCENSE KING!
THE FRANKINCENSE KING


Frankincense King
THE TRUTH AND
THE JOURNEY
DR. JIM RANKIN

Tradition: Part of Life

- We fall into tradition
- Tradition Changes truth

- For Truth a timeline is needed...
- Each piece of evidence in place
- Each place into the correct location

Let's break down the truth: The Christmas Story

- Luke 2:1-6
- And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

Many theories on Jesus' Birth…

- Many believe it was 6 AD
- Others believe it was 6 BC
- While others believe 4 BC to 1 BC
- Let's search for Truth!

1st Clue to Truth: Caesar Augustus had to be in power at Jesus' Birth

- Augustus ruled:
- 27 BC - 14 AD
- 41 years to look in



Cyrenius: The 2nd clue...

- Cyrenius (Quirinius) is governor (overseer) of Syria according to Luke
- A tax or census was being done...



Cyrenius & Census

- Historian, Josephus, said King Archelaus' rule was in Syria, and Caesar sent Cyrenius to do a census in 6 AD
- This is where the 6 AD theory is from.
- But wait....

Cyrenius & Census

- First problem: Herod was long gone by 6 AD (Matthew 2)
- Records show that Augustus had census' taken often
- To tax,
- Account for people,
- Allegiance to him.

Cyrenius & Census

- Caesar Augustus wrote of a census of allegiance in 2 BC.
- Records show Herod was king in Judea, there was census taken in:
- 8 BC, 2 BC
- And then after Herod in 6 AD

Cyrenius & Census

- Come to find out...
- Cyrenius was well- respected by Caesar.
- He's noted to have been put in charge of many places & census'
- 12 BC, he was consul of Syria

Cyrenius & Census

- 2 BC, he was Imperial Legate (overseer or governor) of Syria
- 6 AD, he is once again governor or overseer of Syria.
- Cyrenius was busy for Augustus!
- So, now we've matched Caesar, Cyrenius, and the census

To find the Frankincense King, Wise men: Tradition vs. Truth

- In 1220's: Christmas nearly non-existant
- Francis of Assisi – a church leader saw the demise
- Asked permission for Nativity



Francis created the 1st Nativity scene to Revive Christmas

- He cloked figures in outfits
- Live animals
- Shared the story of Jesus' Birth.



Matthew lays the bread crumbs for Truth…

- He wrote the only record of the wise men's event!
- The early church bishop, Papias, knew Matthew
- Papias recorded that Matthew wrote the Gospel in Hebrew (He was a Jew)
- The Nazarene's later translated to Greek.

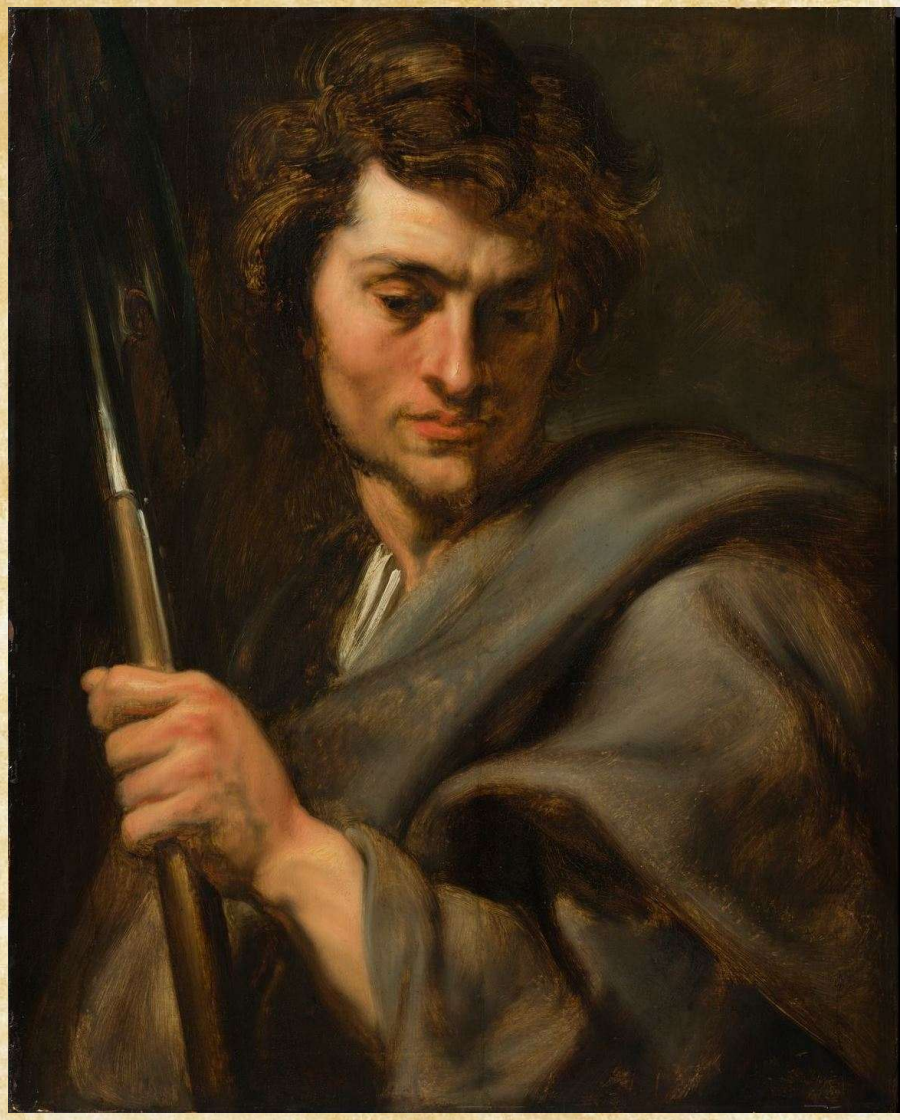


Confirmed by…

- By Eusebius
- And by Josephus the historian
- This changes the Greek meaning of the Wise men…(magi)
- To the Hebrew, which includes: Kings, men of wisdom, and magi

Matthew lays the groundwork…

- Matthew's account of the Wise Men has <u>very detailed</u> record!



Matthew 2:1-2

- Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

Matthew 2:3-5

- When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

1st Question Should be…

- **What prophet foretold that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem?**
- The answer is Micah 5:2
- *But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*

Breaking it Down: "*east to Jerusalem*"

- Many use this reference to the entry into Jerusalem from where they came from.
- This is the first mistake...
- A look into ancient history in this area...

Breaking it Down: "east to Jerusalem"

- There was ONE main route:, The Merchant's Road, thru the pass to enter Jerusalem.
- Unless you were coming from Gaza...you would enter Jerusalem from the "East" through this route.
- They had to enter this way!!!

“

- ;


Petra to Jerusalem
The Likely Route of the Magi into Jerusalem and Bethlehem
Mediterranean Sea
Joppa
Jericho
Jerusalem
Bethlehem
Hebron
Dead Sea

Breaking it Down: "*for we have seen his star in the east*." (Matt. 2:2b)

- How could they come from the "East" and see the Star in the "East"?
- They couldn't!
- And the Scripture DOES NOT SAY THEY DO...only into Jerusalem
- They had to come <u>from the west...</u>

This is confirmed again in verse 9

- *"lo, the star, which they saw in the <u>east.</u>"*
- To confirm this, let's go to Jesus' Bible
- The Old Testament

Psalm 72:10-11

- *The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts. Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him*

Psalm 72:10

- *The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents:*
- Tarshish is a port city near Spain
- Then there are 8 other major isles in the Mediterranean Sea

Psalm 72:10

- *the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts*.
- Sheba is the land of Ethiopia
- Today that's Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, DRC, Zambia, and the rest of that region

Psalm 72:10-11

- Seba, is known as Yemen.
- So, we have at least two kingdoms mentioned to bring the "Exalted Gifts" as the translation shows.

Isaiah 60:6

- *The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.*

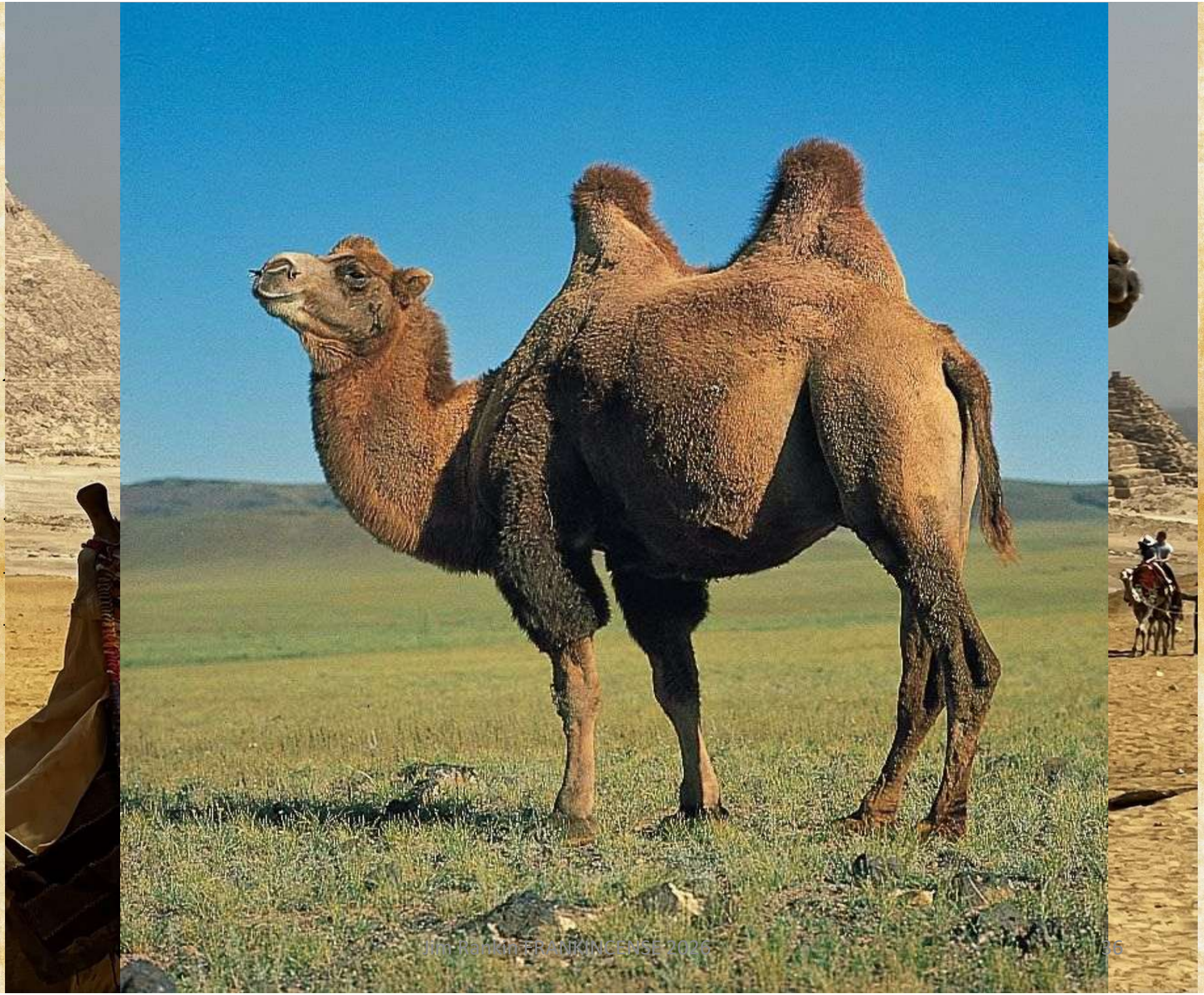
Isaiah 60:6

- *The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;*
- This identifies where they were coming from, HOW?
- The dromedaries
- The one humped camel comes from the western region

Isaiah 60:6

- 1 humped camels from the west
- the dromedaries
- 2 humped camels from the east
- Bactrian camels





Isaiah 60:6

- *Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come*
- Here's our 3 Kings
- It tells us these kings will come from
- Midian: (The origins of Midianites from the Midianite Mtns. in Ethiopia
- Ephah: The kingdom of Yemen
- Sheba: Again, Ethiopia!

Isaiah 60:6

- *they shall bring gold and incense;*
- Midian (Northern Ethiopia/Sudan): Known for their GOLD
- Ephah (Yemen): Known for MYRRH
- Sheba (Ethiopia): Known for FRANKINCENSE

CLEARLY…

- *they shall bring gold and incense;*
- Prophecy tells: KINGS came from the west bearing gifts
- Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh
- WHY?

Ancient Manuscript mentioned in the Bible

- 1st Book of Adam 31:1-3
- Adam & Eve pleads to God to touch their tongue to the rivers of Eden
- God then does this....

1st Book of Adam 31:1-2

- "AFTER these things God said unto Adam, Thou didst ask of Me something from the garden, to be comforted therewith, and I have given thee these three tokens as a consolation to thee...For I will come and save thee; and kings shall bring me when in the flesh, gold, incense and myrrh;

What do these mean?

- 1st Book of Adam 31:3
- Pastors use these meanings regularly
- We assume pastors are quoting the Bible
- “gold as a token of My kingdom; incense as a token of My divinity; and myrrh as a token of My suffering and of My death."

How did the Wise Men know what to look for?

I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel... (Numbers 24:17)

- The Kings had access to Jewish writings
- All 3 of these countries had Tribes of Jews living there at this time!
- This all will make more sense later...

Here would be the route of the Wise Men



Back to Matthew 2:

"(Herod) *he gathered all his chief priests and scribes.*"

- Herod was bothered by this news
- Would he have put so much attention on magicians/star gazers?
- No, he had plenty of his own
- These men were royalty...they were kings!!!

Let's now turn to the star

- Was it a star or great star-like alignment?
- Software gives a timeline answer
- Some say an alignment on April of 6 BC was the birth of Jesus...
- But nothing else lines up with this
- Let's look at another amazing alignment!

First…Psalm 19:1

- "*Heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handiwork.*"
- God used the stars and planets to show us things over time.

Other Investigations…

- Dr. Michael Molnar was one of the big believers on the April 6 BC date.
- But Rick Larson's investigation really sparked me to take it one step further!
- Watch this alignment come together…

The Stars Align?

- A Software program called the Starry Night.
- This is a miracle...Look at God's handiwork...

September 12th, 3 BC

- In Judea...
- Jupiter (King planet) rises in east...
- The star Regulas (Regal or King star) appears to pass right next to Jupiter
- Within the constellation Leo (Lion)
- This caused a starry blast in the sky!!!

The 1st Starry Blast

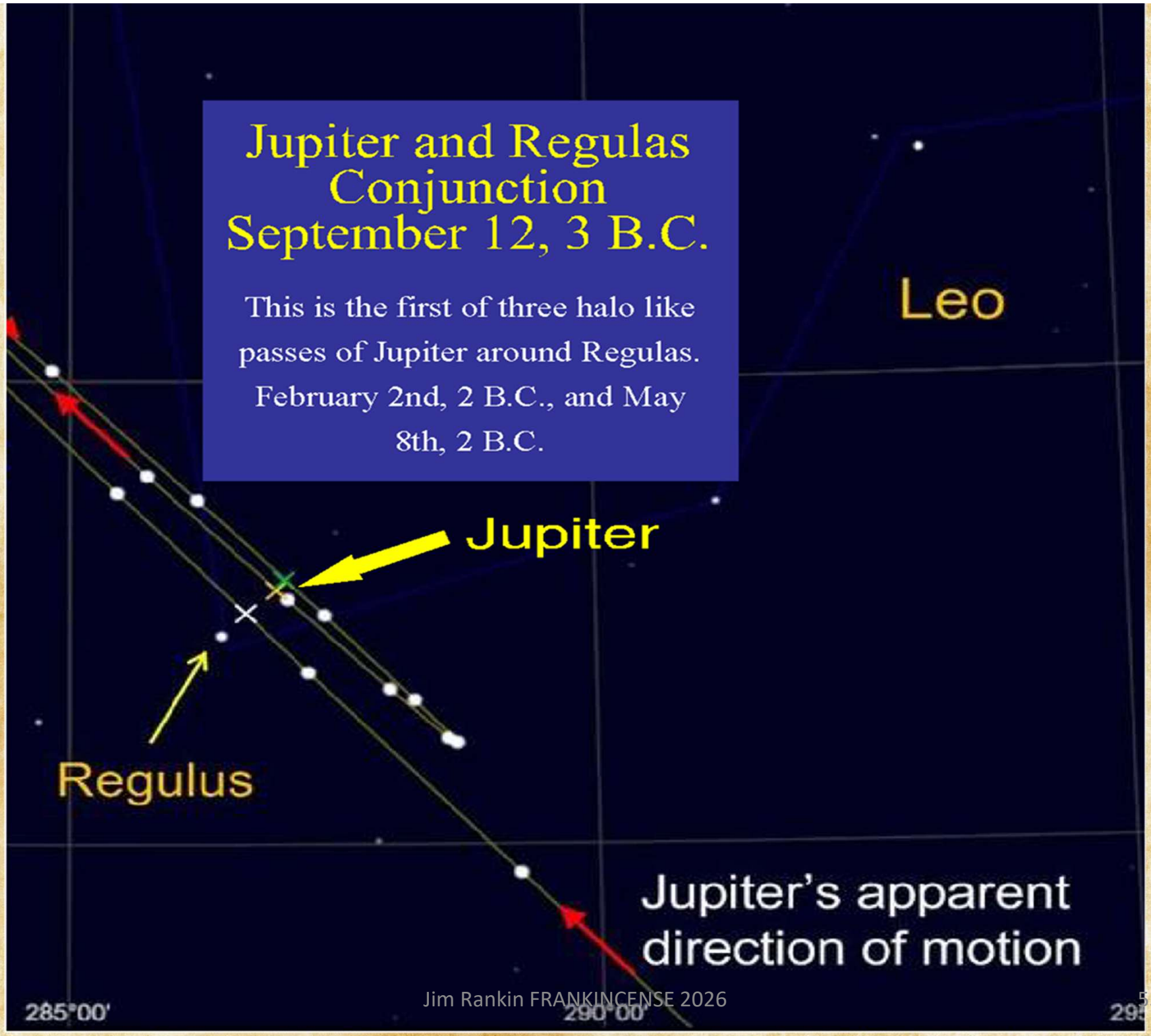
- Remember...
- Numerous times in the Bible God says He will align the stars, planets and constellations to His glory!!!

February 2nd, 2 BC

- This same layout happens again

May 2nd, 2 BC

- Again, it happens: this time Regulus causing a nimbus, or halo effect around Jupiter!!!

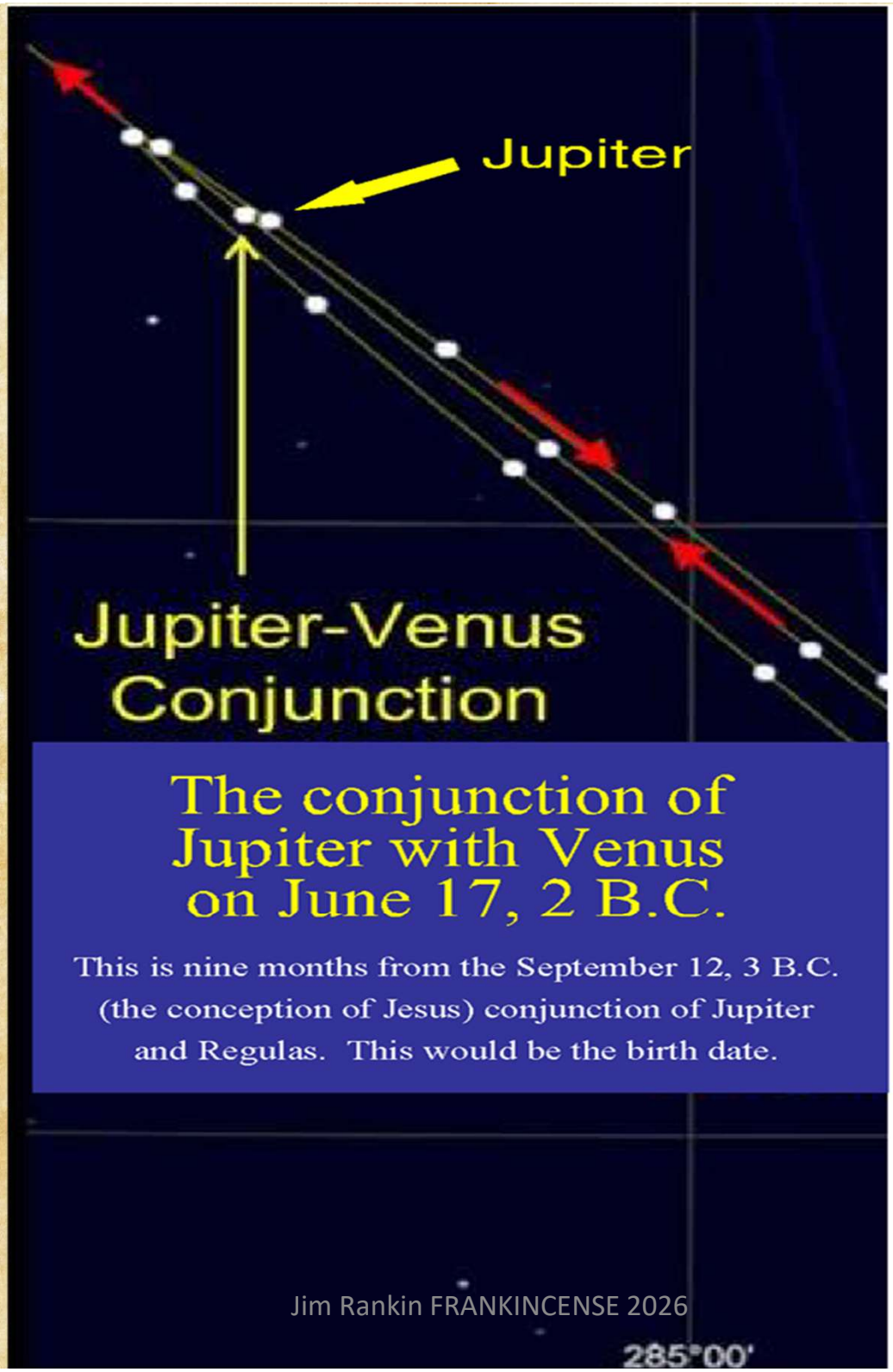

Jupiter and Regulas Conjunction September 12, 3 B.C.
This is the first of three halo like passes of Jupiter around Regulas. February 2nd, 2 B.C., and May 8th, 2 B.C.
Leo
Jupiter
Regulus
Jupiter's apparent direction of motion
285°00'
290°00'

June 17, 2 BC

- On this night...
- Jupiter and Regulus come close once again, BUT...
- Venus (the Virgin planet) nearly overlaps Jupiter in the sky!!!

This causes a Mega Starry Blast!!!

- But hold on...


Jupiter
Jupiter-Venus
Conjunction
The conjunction of
Jupiter with Venus
on June 17, 2 B.C.
This is nine months from the September 12, 3 B.C.
(the conception of Jesus) conjunction of Jupiter
and Regulas. This would be the birth date.
285°00'

Look at the whole picture…

- September 12, 3 BC: First starry blast…
- 2nd starry blast: Another reminding pass: Feb. 2, 2 BC
- 3rd Starry blast: !!!
- May 2, 2 BC: Halo surrounds the King planet Jupiter
- Then June 17, 2 BC: Brightest with Venus, Jupiter, and Regulus pass!

Now...Look at this way!

- September 12, 3 BC: The conception of the Messiah
- February 2, 2 BC: Reminding us
- May 2, 2 BC: Another Reminder...

How Do We Know...

- September 12, 3 BC is the conception?
- We go way back into the Scripture...
- Go to Numbers
- Then confirm ahead in Revelation!

The revealing of the event

I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel...
(Numbers 24:17a)

- Not now, but in the future
- A star out of Jacob (Judea)
- A Sceptre (King) will rise out of Israel!

John sees the proof it happened!

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet...And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. (Revelation 12:1-5)

Breaking it down…

- **September 12, 3 BC**
- *a woman clothed with the sun (Rev. 12:1)*
- After Jupiter in Leo rose, it was followed by Virgo with the sun behind it
- *and the moon under her feet… (Rev 12:1)*
- Under the constellation Virgo was a crescent moon in the sky rising.

Continuing…

- **September 12, 3 BC**
- *she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (Rev. 12:5)*
- It has now happened…ruling all nations…
- Here's that rod of iron, or Scepter again!
- *and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne (Rev. 12:5)*
- Eventually, Jesus was taken up unto GOD, to His Throne!!!!!

Did you see it?

- **June 17, 2 BC**
- A Mega Starry Blast (shown on numerous software!)
- Jupiter – Venus – passing with Regulus
- Count the months from September
- **Nine Months**
- **THE BIRTH DATE OF THE MESSIAH!**

But that is far from the end!

- This starry blast of the birth did more than announce the coming of the Messiah...
- It was also seen in the Western Skies!!!
- With timing essential: this is also the time of the movement of the Kings

August 20th, 2 BC

- A 5th Starry Blast
- A continuing guiding light for the Wise Men



October 14, 2 BC

- Another round with Jupiter!
- The 6th Starry Blast!



Again, in November of 2 BC

- Jupiter is continuing in what appears to be a looping pattern back & forth to Judea



And this is where we stop for a few minutes

- This would give enough time for traveling the distance that the wise men needed to arrive in Jerusalem.

Who were these men?

- *Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.* (Matt. 2:2-3)
- The wise men were entertained by Herod over a period of time.
- Again...The interest of Kings worried him...

Who were these men?

- *And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,* (and they go on to quote the prophet). (Matthew 2:4-6)
- This was a period of time
- These men were honored guests to find the information he wanted!

Who were these men?

- *Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared*. (Matthew 2:7)
- Again, a period of time has passed
- The wise men are still there
- He calls them back...

They were Kings…

- *And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also..* (Matthew 2:8)
- Herod drops the deceiving lie
- And the next journey begins…

The Kings move on…

- *When they had heard the king, they departed;* (Matthew 2:9a)
- Herod thinks he has them
- This shows he entertained them for a period of time.
- Time enough to gain trust…or he thought.
- Now, back to the star!

A Halt…

- *and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.* (Matthew 2:9b)
- The star (or starry event) moved before them…
- And then stood still over Bethlehem…
- How?

Only by the hands of God!

- It's only a little under 6 miles to Bethlehem Ephratah from Jerusalem...
- In a bright movement...Jupiter suddenly stops over Bethlehem!
- How?
- Jupiter is in a retrograde east to west motion

Mind blowing!

- In the sky in December
- The pattern of Jupiter in its bright appearance...
- Ends its oval retrograde loop
- Making it appear to stop...
- Just happens to be over Bethlehem
- Before continuing back
- What's the date?

December 25th, 2 BC!

- The day the Wise Men (according to Scripture) would have arrived!
- *When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy* (Matt. 2:10)
- *And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh*. (Matt. 2:11)



Remember…

- Verse 11 states "*young child*"
- In the Greek, this refers to "Not a newborn"
- Some say "toddler" but that's not accurate.
- He's now 6 months old "Not a newborn"

Did you also see…

- *they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him:(Matt. 2:11)*
- Just as described in Psalm 72:11: *Yea, all kings shall fall down before him*
- And Isaiah 60:6*: they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD*

The order of the Miracle

- Sept. 12, 3 BC: Conception of Christ
- February 2, 2 BC: Another blast
- May 2, 2 BC: Another reminder
- June 17, 2 BC: The Birth of Jesus!

The order of the Miracle

- August 20, 2 BC: Guiding the Wise Men
- October 14, 2 BC: Continuing to guide them
- November 11, 2 BC: An arrival in Jerusalem – following the blast

The order of the Miracle

- The Kings leave Jerusalem
- Jupiter ends a retrograde motion directly over Bethlehem
- December 25, 2 BC: The Kings arrive to worship the Savior!

For 2,000 years there has been an inscription…



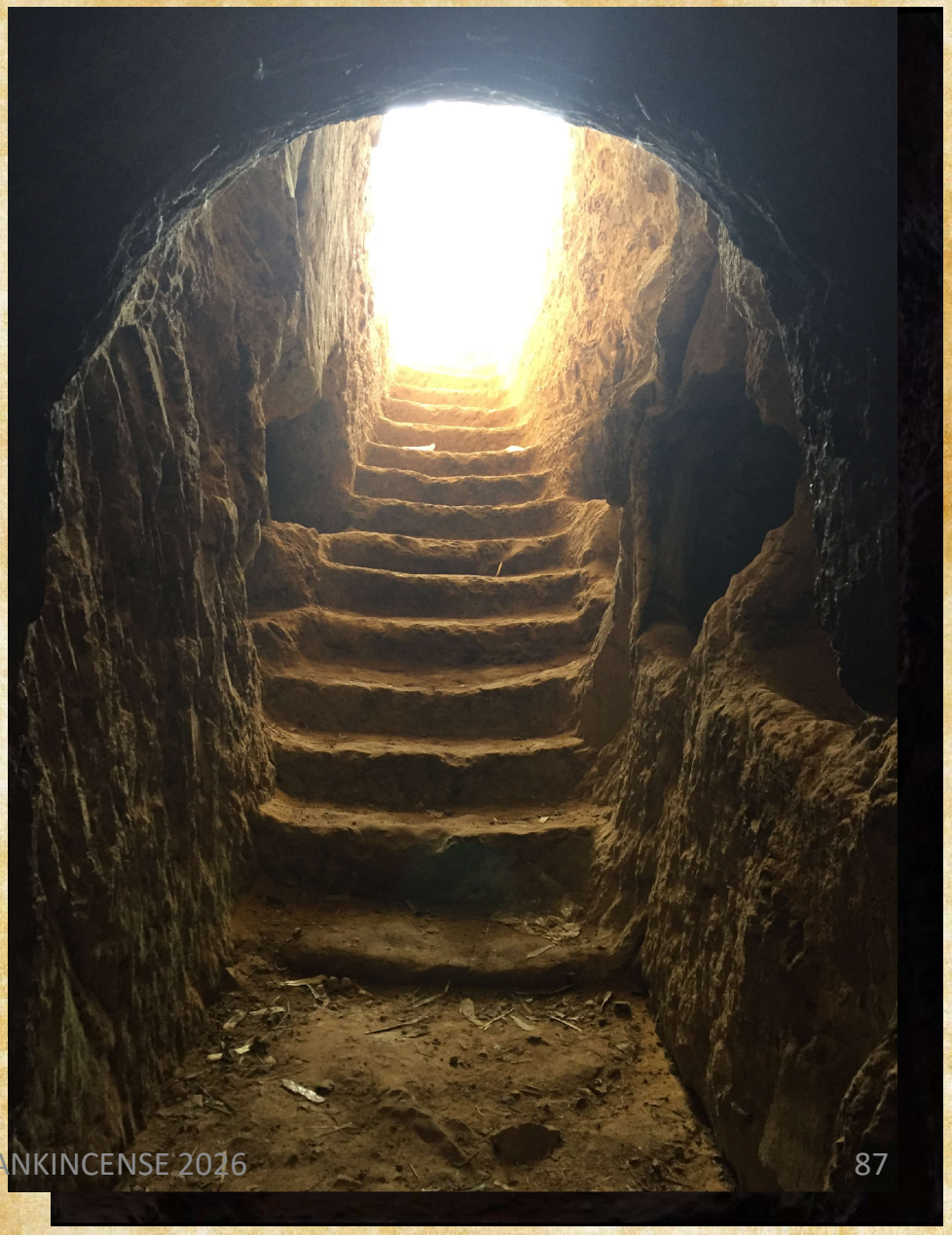
SO, Who was the Frankincense King?

- In 1967 a hillside gives way
- In Axum's Kingdom an Obelisk emerges…



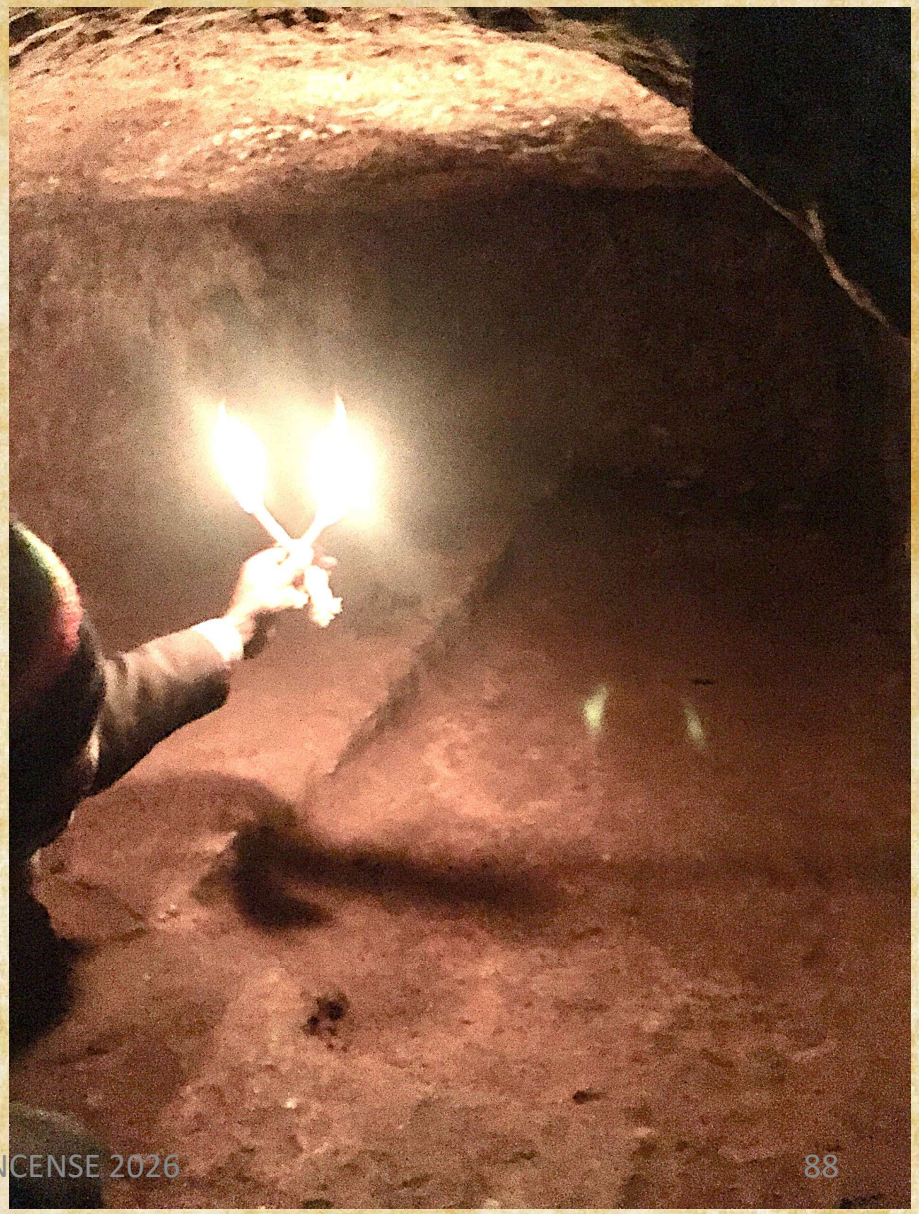
Archeologist found…

- The tomb: multiple
- 2 chambers for their children
- 1 for the faithful servant



Archeologist found…

- A chamber for the king and his queen
- Tomb was looted
- What did they take?



But they left the real treasure behind…

- Broken pottery throughout
- Some collected by archeologist
- Rest taken by current leaders in Axum, Ethiopia…hidden away!

In 2016 A Journey into Axum for research…

- My longtime guide Misgana steps up.
- He asked the caretaker of the Guardian of the Ark of the Covenant if any pottery was left
- He said “much had been taken to Addis, the capital”

Zemichael said he would ask the Guardian…

- The next evening Misgana knocked on my room door.
- He said the Guardian wants to see you
- We headed down behind the church of the Ark
- After taking everything but my pen and note pad
- We entered the gate









The largest piece read…

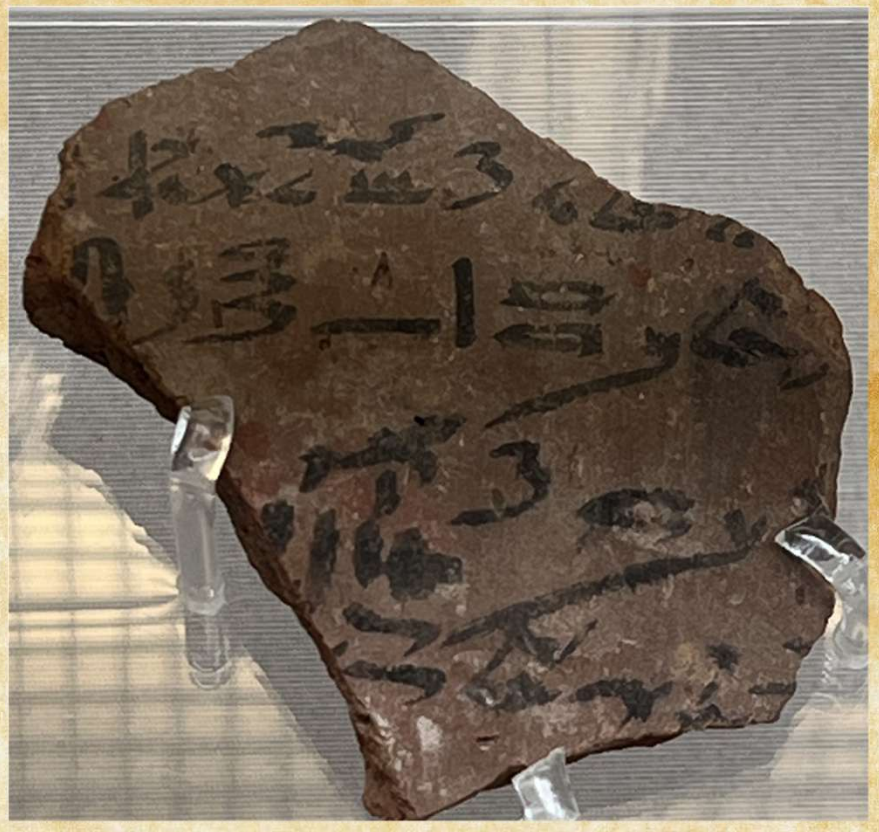
- *In the 6th* (or 7th – pottery was chipped but had start of 6) *year of King Bazen's reign…*
- *He received a calling from a god…*
- *Take the frankincense from your royal grove to a child who would be king in Israel…*

It then said…

- *You will meet up with 2 others, and then 9 more, and deliver the gifts…*
- Remember Psalm 72:10: 9 other will join up with the 2 from Tarshish & isles of the Mediterranean
- 3 with the "Gifts" & 9 carrying presents

With a gasp…I took the pottery in my hand…

- A piece of history in my hands
- Guardian collected pottery
- We nodded to each other
- We all sat with tears



We've matched...

- The Star events in 2 BC
- Augustus was emperor
- Cyrenius was in Syria
- A census was taken
- But what about the timing of Bazen?

According to all scholars

- Bazen became king in 8 BC
  - Reigned at least 16 years
- Probably much, much more according to other studies
  - Let's count the years

Remember his calling in the 6th year of Bazen's reign

- 8 BC Bazen became King
  - 1 – 7 BC
  - 2 – 6 BC
  - 3 – 5 BC
  - 4 – 4 BC
  - 5 – 3 BC
  - 6 – 2 BC

- ***The 6th year of the King's reign he delivered the Frankincense***
- 2 BC: when...
- Under Caesar Augustus...Cyrenius was conducting a census in Syria and he was in charge
- Herod was still king (died in 1 BC)
- King Bazen, delivers frankincense
- And the last of the Starry Events happened...

By the way…

- There were 8 Starry Events in the sky…
- 8 Represents:
- New Beginnings,
- Resurrection,
- And Spiritual Rebirth

History doesn't lie… The Star Coins!

- An ancient coin was found only in Syria
- First struck in 6 AD
- Cyrenius returned for another census and took charge again
- He recounted what happened when he was there before in 2 BC

On June 17, 2 BC The Birth of Jesus…

- Jupiter (king planet) & Venus (the virgin planet) nearly overlap – making an extremely bright star effect
- With Regulus in a close pass
- Over Judea
- Seen by the wise men

Cyrenius was in Syria this night

- Stars were signs to these people
- This night, a massive appearance of a star-like event over Judea in Leo
- Over Syria this night, constellation Aries...the ram
- In the arrangement...Aries had to look back at the star in Bethlehem!

On the coin…


The Ram (Aries) looking back at the Star
Star of Bethlehem
Star of Bethlehem Coin

In February of 2025

- Our team returned to Axum
- The old shop!
- Later a friend brought a farmer into see me with 3 coins in dirt.....
- It was King Bazen's image on front
- But this was later in his rule
- On the back was a star blast!


Star of Bethlehem
King Bazen (Balthazar)

So, who is King Bazen?

The only known full etching of him was hidden in the back of the treasury of the Ark of the Covenant…



Through other historical writings we found his full name…

Bazen-Egippus

Balt-hazar

Closing up the ends…

- Many think the Bible contradicts itself…
- To cover up their misunderstandings…scholars & translators remove things…
- They've left the Enter Jerusalem from the east, BUT CHANGED his star in the east!!!
- Now described: "seeing the star rise."

By the way…

- The wise men were also announced in Isaiah 60:3b:

- *And the Gentil*
  thy light, and k
  brightness of t



So, what about the wise men of the Orient?



God's TRUTH Are too Often Missed...

When it all came together...

It was Miraculous...

Now we know the TRUTH



In Ethiopia...
Our Work Continues to Grow

Reaching the Jews with the Word of God

*SOLAR BIBLES

*Water Filtration Units

*Bringing the Jewish Tribes to Christ

*And Training them to Teach Others continues stronger than ever!!!

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I'M FIRST
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Reaching Hidden & Persecuted Tribes of the JEWS





As of July of 2026
AIT
has located over

275,000 Persecuted Jews











We have the teams… Located the hidden tribes… And We're…

- In the villages
- Discipling
- In dire need of a <u>secure training center</u>
- And located dozens of underground churches to send them to!

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We Pray You'll Invest in Reaching the Ethiopian Jews for Christ... Then Watch A Great Revival Come to Jerusalem as they return HOME!



THANK YOU And MAY GOD BLESS YOU!





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