



the **lake** church

December 26, 2021



The Magi: The Star, Their Faith and Gifts

Matthew 2

Matthew 2: Written for Jewish audience. They KNEW Old Testament Scriptures/prophecies.

Matthew 2:1 (NAS): "...after Jesus was born in Bethlehem..."

Matthew 2:1 (KJV): "...when Jesus was born..."

NKJV-KJV: "wise men"

AMP: "magi" – wise men;

Passion Version: "spiritual priests" – astrologers

Bethlehem

Hebrew scholars saw this town to be birthplace of the Messiah. (Micah 5:2; John 7:42; Luke 2)

Magi

Philosophers, the counselors of rulers, learned in all the wisdom of the ancient East. The wise men who came seeking the Christ child were not idolaters; they were upright men of integrity.

Two-year Journey – Star in the East – Bethlehem Numbers 24:17; Daniel 9:25,26; Matthew 2:2-6;

Micah 5:2; John 7:40-42

Herod – The Scoundrel

Matthew 2:8

The Gifts – Gifts Worthy of a King

Matthew 2:10-12

Gold: A precious metal and valuable commodity; a symbol of divinity.

Frankincense: A white resin made from tree bark; highly fragrant and often used in worship services and sacrifices in the Old Testament; a sign of holiness and righteousness, and sacrifice.

Myrrh: Another product from trees; a spice used in embalming; occasionally mixed with wine to form a drink like that given to Jesus on the cross as a stupefying potion – sometimes called “gall.” Signified suffering, affliction, and bitterness.

The Rest of the Story

Matt 2:13-23

Christ unites us all in faith (Gal 3:28; Eph 2:14-16)

Magi – Great Men of FAITH

“We read of no greater faith than this in the entire Bible. It is a faith that deserves to be placed side by side with that of the penitent thief. The thief saw one dying the death of a malefactor and yet prayed to him and called him 'Lord.' The wise men saw a little child on the lap of a poor woman, and yet they worshipped him and confessed that he was the Christ.”

JC Ryle – Anglican Bishop

Key Question:

Who is Jesus Christ to YOU?

~~~~~

## **NEW SERIES:**

Beginning next week, January 2<sup>nd</sup>

“Wise Living in a Foolish World”