

Matthew 2:1-12 outline notes:

Background:

Roman rule

Treated harshly

Heavy taxation.

Matthew the tax collector. One of the 12.

The book of Matthew is a book of rejection from beginning to end.

Matthew presents Jesus as the King

Matthew 2:1-12,

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, **2** saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.” **3** When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. **4** And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. **5** So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: **6** ‘But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’ ” **7** Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. **8** And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.” **9** When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. **11** And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. **12** Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

Verse 1, “Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem”.

Bethlehem- “house of bread”. A real place! Jacob buried Rachel, Ruth married Boaz. David’s hometown, The City of David. The Old Testament clearly stated that the Messiah was to be born there and all Jews knew this. This was common knowledge of the day.

“in the days of Herod the king.” The Roman senate made Herod the King of the Jews. He held this title until his death. Brutal guy. Messed up! Angry!

“Wise men from the East”. Had no king, wanted a king. Jewish people should have been looking for the Messiah, but didn’t. John 1:11, “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

Who were these guys? Where were they? Did they ride in on Camels? Doesn't matter really but what does matter was that they were seeking Jesus Christ. John 11:27. Matthew 16:13-16.

John 20:30-31

I Thessalonians 5:9-10: Salvation is offered to all by seeking Him

2 saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

Speaking to King Herod. Gentiles coming to pay respect to King Jesus.

3 When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. **4** And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

Herod agitated - the wise guys who were excited, thrilled, happy, Why? There is a new king in town! His response? He gathered all the chief priests, scribes and asked them where the Christ was to be born. A large group came together to discuss this.

5 So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: **6** 'But you, Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' "

The scribes, Pharisees, priests, they quote Micah 5:2.

Verse 7, Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. **8** And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

Herod calls a private meeting

9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

Their journey is now complete. Time to rejoice

One day our journey, our travels on this earth will be over. Will your name be in the Book of Life? Rev 20.

11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Jesus always gets mentioned first. They worship Him. Not Mary, not the place, Jesus. they worshipped him with their giving and it was fitting for a king.

12 Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

Three groups of people:

1. Herod who despised and hated Christ,
2. The religious leaders of the day who were indifferent and then
3. The wise men who recognized who Jesus was and worshipped Him.

What group are you in?