REACTIONS TO THE MESSIAH MT. 2:1-12

Matthew 2:1 Now when Jesus was born in Beth-lehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

Matthew 2:2 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 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

Matthew 2:4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

Matthew 2:5 And they said unto him, In Beth-lehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

Matthew 2:6 And thou Beth-lehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

Matthew 2:7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

Matthew 2:8 And he sent them to Beth-lehem, 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 2:9 When they had heard the king, they departed; 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 2:10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

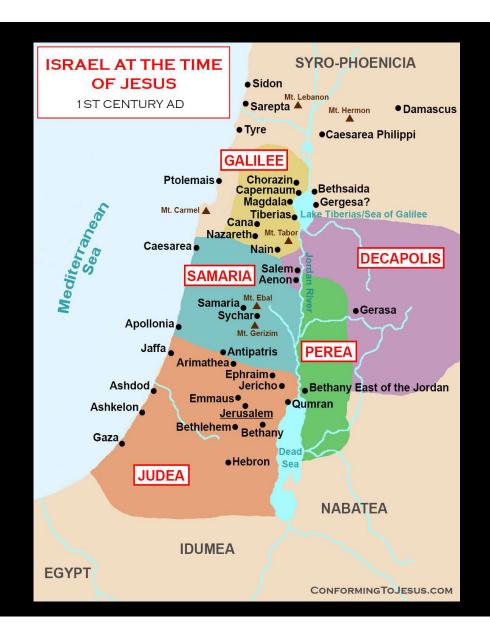
Matthew 2:11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Matthew 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name <u>JESUS</u>: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name **Emmanuel**, which being interpreted is, **GOD** With US.



Matthew 2:1 Now when Jesus was born in Beth-lehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came Wise men (μάγοι) from the east to Jerusalem, Matthew 2:2 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.

1. Wise men came seeking Him!

Matthew 2:1 Now when Jesus was born in Beth-lehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came Wise men (μάγοι) from the east to Jerusalem, Matthew 2:2 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.

Wise men (μάγος): wise men, counsellors, scholars, astronomy, astrology, charlatan, tricksters...magi / magicians...

From the east = probably from Mesopotamia or Persia (Parthia then, Iran today)
The home of Daniel, Nehemiah, Ezra, & Jews in large numbers until quite recently.

Acts 2:8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue (ἕκαστος τῆ ἰδίᾳ διαλέκτῳ ἡμῶν ἐν ἡ ἐγεννήθημεν), wherein we were born?

Acts 2:9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

The wise men:

- >Came
- **≻**Came from great distance
- **≻**Came at great cost
- >Came with very limited knowledge / information
- >Came to worship
- >Came to worship Him & Him alone
- **≻**Came with costly gifts

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Him, not them or her! Him & Him alone!

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Matthew 2:16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Beth-lehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

2. Herod the Great came opposing Him!

Matthew 2:2 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.

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Herod the Great was great in most ways:

- >A great survivor
- >A great builder
- >A great paranoid

>A great murderer

But Pastor Warren, what about salvation? Forgiveness? Peace? Hope?

Matthew 2:3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

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3. The Scholars came ignoring Him!

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Psalm 45:1 My heart is inditing a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

Psalm 45:2 Thou art fairer than the children of men: Grace is poured into thy lips: Therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.

Psalm 42:1 As the hart panteth after the water brooks, So panteth my soul after thee, O God.

Psalm 42:2 My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: When shall I come and appear before God?

John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: