

Merry Christmas

*Commemorating the
Sequence of Holy Events for
the four weeks of December*

Prophecy Candle

Bethlehem Candle

Shepherd's Candle

Wisemen's Candle

Christmas Eve -

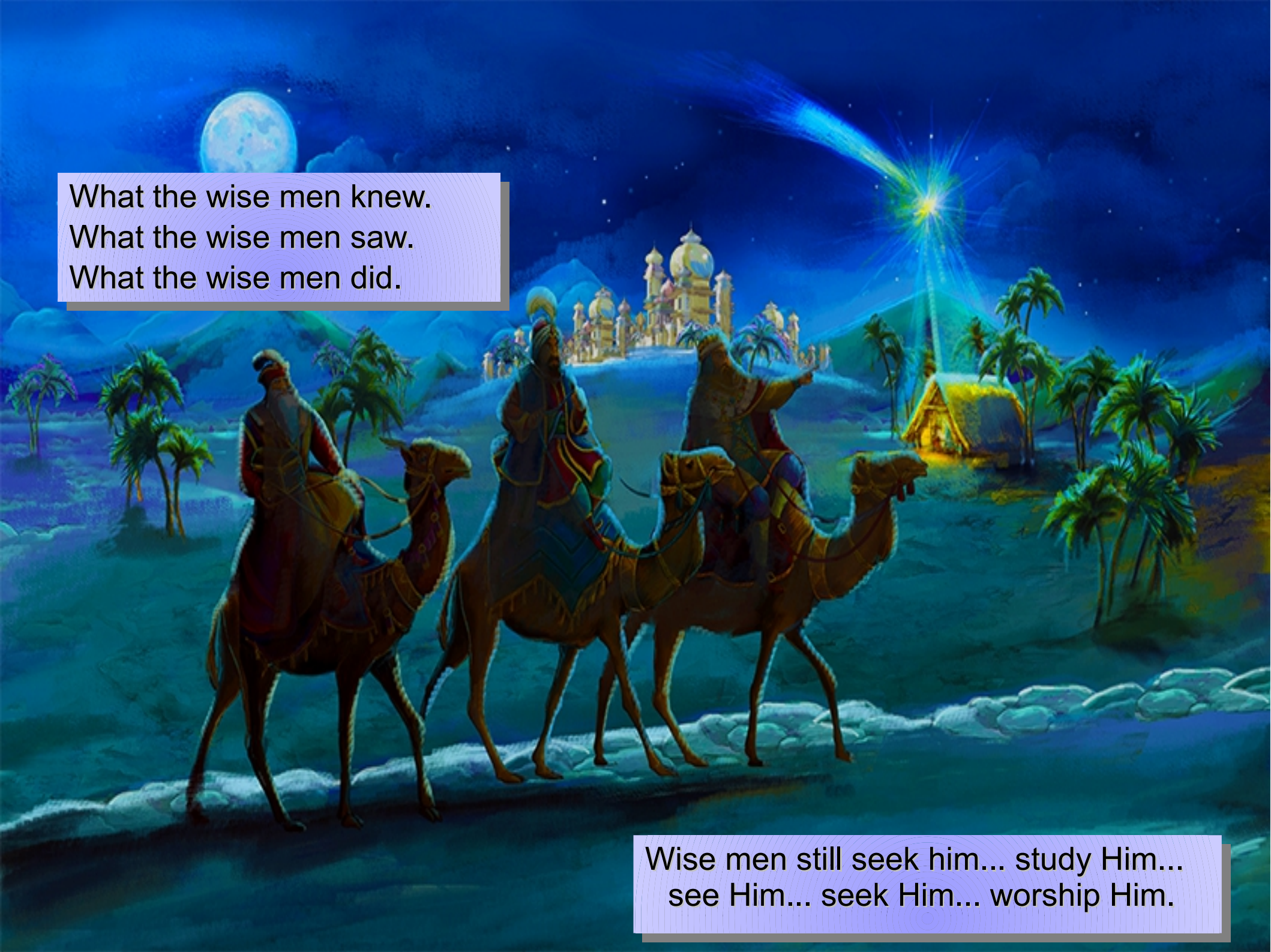
Christ's Candle



Wise men

Still Seek Him





What the wise men knew.
What the wise men saw.
What the wise men did.

Wise men still seek him... study Him...
see Him... seek Him... worship Him.

What the Bible says about these Wise Men

Matthew 2:1 ¶ 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,

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.

Verse 2 is our outline:

They knew: the King of the Jews – Messiah (in Greek – *the Christ*)

They saw: his star in the east

They did: come to worship him.

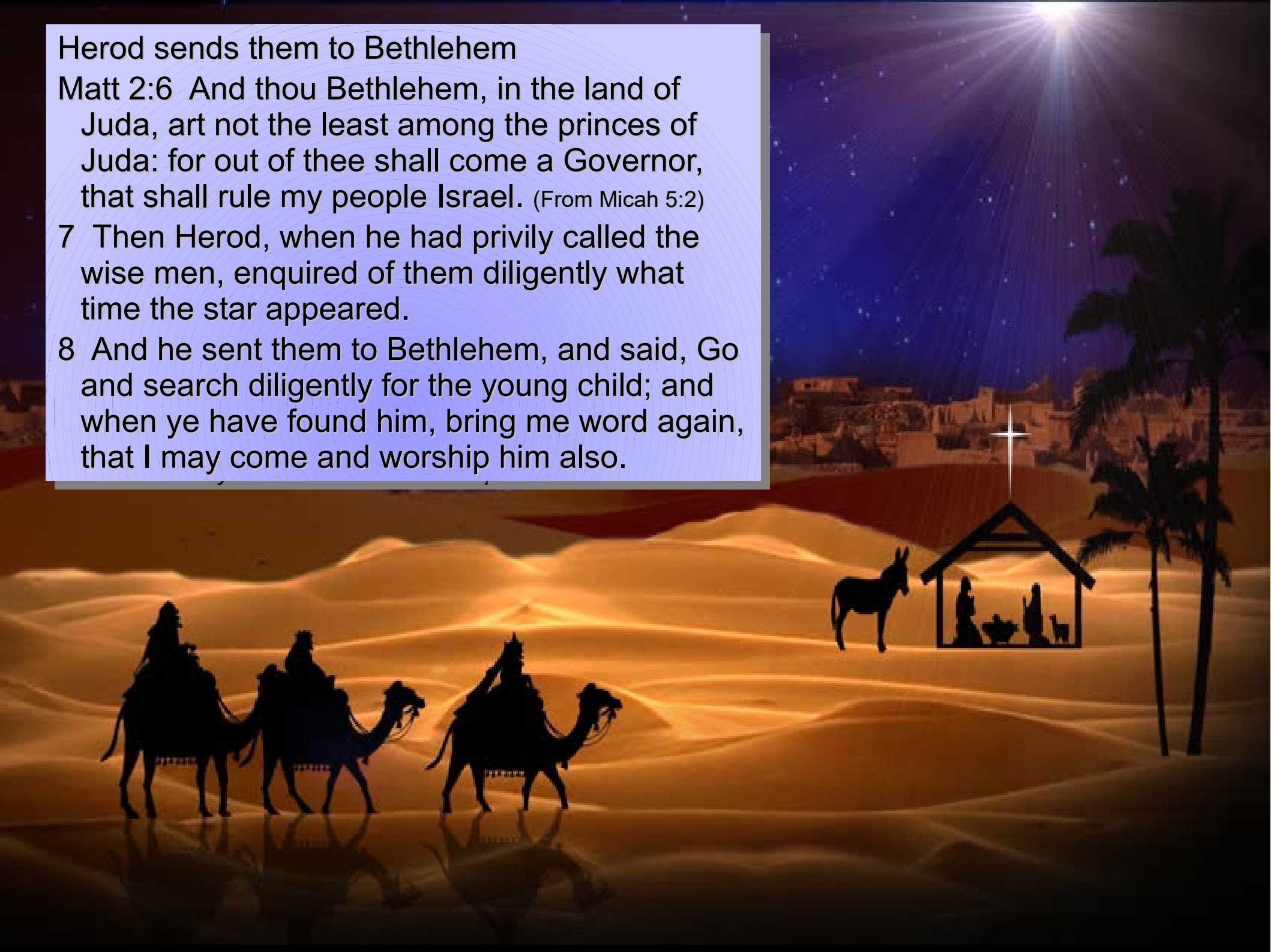


Herod sends them to Bethlehem

Matt 2:6 And thou Bethlehem, 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. (From Micah 5:2)

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

8 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.



Did the wise men from the east have a copy of Micah?

They likely had all the books that Daniel had.

Then they had access to all but the post-exile books: Hag, Zech, Esth, Ezra, 1&2Chron, Neh, Mal

Book	Date	Book	Date
Gen	-4003	Obedia	-887
Job	-1500	Jonah	-862
Exod	-1499	Joel	-800
Lev	-1495	Amos & Hosea	-787
Num	-1490	Isaiah	-760
Deut	-1451	Micah	-750
Josh	-1450	Nah	-713
Judg	-1425	Jerem & Zeph	-629
Ruth	-1322	Ezek & Hab	626
1Sam	-1171	Dan	-600
2Sam	-1056	Lam	-588
1King	-1015	<i>Hag & Zech</i>	-520
Psalms	-1000	<i>Esth</i>	-483
SoS	-990	<i>Ezra</i>	-458
Prov	-984	<i>1&2Chron</i>	-457
Eccl	-980	<i>Neh</i>	-444
2King	-896	<i>Mal</i>	-397

Italic not available to Daniel in 530 BC

(Roughly exiled to Babylon in 600 BC, and gone for exactly 70 years, returning then in $600-70 = 530$ BC. Learn to rightly divide the Word of Truth.)





The wise men account continues:

Matt 2:9 -11 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. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. 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.

So what did these wise men from the east know?

The wise men knew what Daniel knew.

Daniel knew a lot..

Dan 9:1 In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;

2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:



Some things Daniel, and ergo these wise men from the east, knew about the coming Messiah.

They knew there was a coming Saviour:

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

They knew he would be of the seed of Abraham.

Genesis 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.





Be careful here to know what we know:

2Tim 3:16-17 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

These are not just stories, these are the precious infallible, inerrant, verbally inspired Words of God.



They knew he would be of the tribe of Judah (a Jew):
Genesis 49:10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor
a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and
unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

In Gen.49.10 there is a one time use of the primary root of the Hebrew word Shiloh (07886 שִׁילֹהּ *Shiyloh*) which brings to bear the more personal meaning “He whose it is, that which belongs to him, tranquility.” Otherwise the predominant use of Shiloh (07887 שֵׁלָה or שִׁילֹ or שֵׁלוּ *shee-lo*) in its 32 other scriptures means “a city in Ephraim and temporary home of the Ark of the Covenant and the Tabernacle, the place where Samuel grew up.” Ref Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of Scripture. Word studies are good for us.

They knew he would sit on the throne of King David and
spring from his seed-line.
2 Samuel 7:16 And thine house and thy kingdom shall be
established for ever before thee: thy throne shall be
established for ever.



They knew, and King Nebuchadnezzar knew it too (Daniel 3:25), that he would be the Only Begotten Son of God:

Psalm 2:2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against **his anointed**, ... (04899 משיח mashiyach maw-shee' akh AV-anointed 37, Messiah 2 – Daniel 9:25,26!; 39 times total. i.e. the anointed one, Greek Christ.).

4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

6 Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

7 ¶ I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

(Verse 7 is the LORD talking to himself.)





They knew he would be born of a virgin:
Isaiah 7:13-14 And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

They knew he would be “The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father!”

Isaiah 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.



They knew he would be a foundation stone:

Isaiah 28:16 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

They knew he would be a stumbling stone:

Isaiah 8:14 And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.





They knew he would be die for the iniquity of the world:

Isa 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 ¶ Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Christ Died for our sin.

I wish that my neighbor knew that much about Messiah:

John 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil....

36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.



What the wise men saw:... *for we have seen his star in the east...*

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.

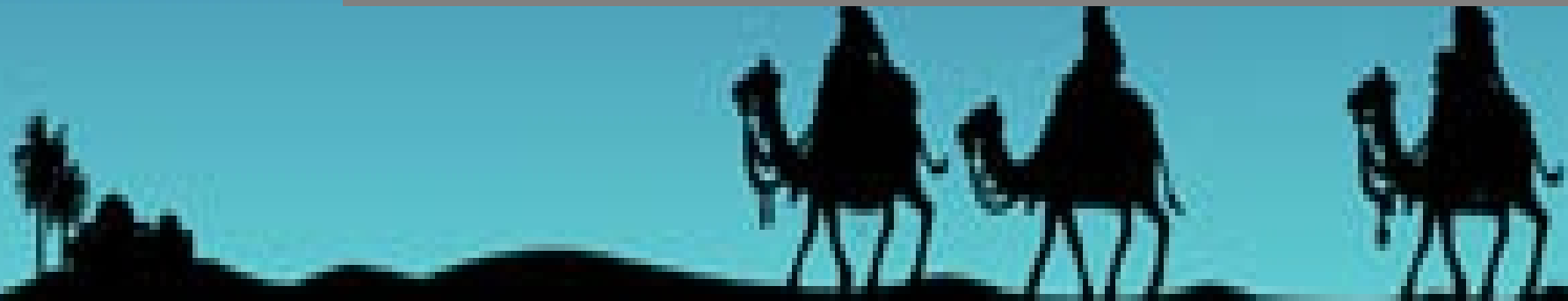
10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

Let me mention this again... We here, now, today know that:
All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works. (2Tim 3:16-17)



Modernists try to **naturalize** everything in the scriptures.
THEY SAY it wasn't the crossing of the "Red" sea, it was the crossing of the "Reed" sea.
THEY SAY he didn't miraculously feed the 5,000 he just taught people to share and people sharing fed the 5,000.
THEY SAY ... well they are infidels, so I won't repeat here that much of what they say!

But of these wise men THEY SAY they saw a perfectly natural phenomena and I can show you what it is...
THEY SAY "You see in Dec of 4 BC Mercury crossed paths with Venus a couple times and Voilà, the wise men saw the anomaly and thought it meant something special."
THEY SAY "You see there was a supernova in the night sky and Voilà, the wise men saw the anomaly and mistakenly thought it meant something special about a birth."



I mean I was born under June star in 1952 and so the stars give me certain personality traits? ... REALLY? Are you a believer or an astrologer and psychic? Choose you this day whom you will serve.

Now, by all means go to the planetarium, study the stars, marvel at the planets, at Venus the morning star, and evening star, at supernova's millions of light years away... The heavens declare the glory of God and the Firmament sheweth his handiwork (Psalm 19)



But this star is a miracle.

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.

10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

The star the wise men saw was miraculous... it was a sign from God.

Do you want a sign from God?... here are 66 of them, 39 in an Old Testament, and 27 in a New Testament.





What the wise men did? They brought their gifts and worshiped the infant child.

Thou shalt have no other god before thee ... but ...

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.



Worship Only God!

Matthew 8:2 And, behold, **there came a leper and worshipped him**, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

Matthew 9:18 While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came **a certain ruler, and worshipped him**, saying, My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.

Matthew 14:33 Then they that were in the ship came **and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.**

Matthew 15:25 **Then came she and worshipped him**, saying, Lord, help me.

Matthew 28:9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. **And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.**

Matthew 28:17 **And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.**

Mark 5:6 But when he saw Jesus afar off, **he ran and worshipped him**,


Luke 24:52 **And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy:**

John 9:38 And he said, Lord, I believe. **And he worshipped him.**

Acts 10:25 And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. 26 But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.

Paul and Barnabas refused worshiped at Athens... Angels refused man's worship... but the Son of Man, the Second Adam, He is to be worshiped.

Revelation 5:14 And the four beasts said, Amen. **And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.**

A detailed painting of the Nativity scene. Mary is seated in the center, holding the infant Jesus in a manger. To the left, a shepherd with a long white beard and a staff looks on. To the right, three wise men in ornate, colorful robes kneel in adoration, offering gifts. The scene is set in a dark, stable-like environment with warm, golden light emanating from the manger. The background is dark with some faint stars or lights.

This Christmas – Worship
our Lord Jesus Christ

Wise men still ...
study Him... see Him... seek
Him... worship Him.

- Msg #1851 Wise Men Worship the Son
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The wise men of Matthew chapter two knew some things, saw something, and did some thing. Wise men make a study of “he that is born King of the Jews.” These came from the 300 year old ashes of a world empire that once held God's chosen remnant of these Jews. They knew the newborn king would be the only begotten Son of God from Psalms 2; even the founder of the empire knew of that relationship (Daniel 3:25). Their instructor, Daniel, was a profound teacher of God's truths; he still is; he has been for all wise men studying Scripture. They knew this Messiah would arrive 483 years after the Jews were released from bondage (Daniel 9:24-26). They knew he would be the Saviour of the world (Gen 3:15), the seed of Abraham (12:3) occupy the throne of King David (2Sam7:16), be born of a virgin (Isa 7:13-14), and be called “The mighty God, the everlasting Father” (Isa 9:6-7). I would that my neighbor new that much about Messiah because, “Whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:15). These wise men saw a supernatural star that led them to a house where the child was. Those not believing in the supernatural suppose it was Mercury crossing Venus in 4 BC, or perhaps a supernova, but believers know it was not natural but a supernatural sign from God. We know because, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God” (that is, copies of copies of copies that young Timothy had in 2Tim 3:16). The wise men of Matthew chapter two worshiped the Only Begotten Son of God, who said worship no other God but the LORD God. The Son is indeed “the mighty God, the everlasting Father,” and we should worship him too. Merry Christmas.

An Essay for week #51 Dec 23, 2018

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