



Wisemen and Fools

Matthew 2:1-12

The theme of the Gospel of Matthew is the “Sovereignty of Christ.” As Sovereign, He has come to reign and rule. He is King Jesus the Christ.

In Chapters 1 and 2 Matthew unfolds for us the testimony of this truth in connection with Christ’s birth.

The story is an incredible drama with five different acts or dimensions of truth.

I. Arrival (Verses 1-2)

- **Daniel 5:10-12** - *The queen, because of the words of the king and his lords, came to the banquet hall. The queen spoke, saying, “O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts trouble you, nor let your countenance change.”¹¹ There is a man in your kingdom in whom is the Spirit of the Holy God. And in the days of your father, light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, were found in him; and King Nebuchadnezzar your father—your father the king—made him chief of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers.¹² Inasmuch as an excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting dreams, solving riddles, and explaining enigmas^[a] were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar, now let Daniel be called, and he will give the interpretation.”*
- **Matthew 4:9-10** - *And he said to Him, “All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.”¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’*

II. Anxiety (Verses 3-6)

- **Matthew 2:16** - *Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.*
- **Matthew 2:4-6** - *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.’”*

- **Micah 5:2** - *But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.*
- **John 7:37-42** - *On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. ⁴⁰ Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, "Truly this is the Prophet." ⁴¹ Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Will the Christ come out of Galilee?" ⁴² Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?"*
- **John 3:17-18** - *For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. ¹⁸ "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

III. Ambush (Verses 7-8)

IV. Adoration (Verses 9-11)

- **Matthew 2:10-11** - *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 worshipped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

- Notice Three Things of Great Importance:

1. Whom They Worshipped

- They worshipped Him – Jesus Christ

2. How They Worshipped

- They worshipped by giving. Wisemen still give to Jesus

3. What They Gave

- a. Gold – A gift for a King
- b. Frankincense – Incense for Sacrifice

c. Myrrh – Used to perfume the dead

- The wisemen gave the best they had. Wise men still give their best to Jesus.

V. Apprehension (Verse 12)

- They took God's way. Wise men still take God's way
- Three Groups of People:
 - Hatred and Hostility (Herod)
 - Indifferent (Chief Priest and Scribes)
 - **Lamentations 1:12** - *"Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? Behold and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow, Which has been brought on me, Which the Lord has inflicted In the day of His fierce anger."*
 - Adoration – Worship (Magi)
- Wise men still worship Jesus the Christ