

The Year(s) Of Following Jesus

#156 The Wisemen & The Star Of Bethlehem

December 25, 2024



Following The Year(s) Of [^]Jesus #156

Experiencing The Nativity: The Hope Of The Wise Men

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem. Matthew 2:1 (NLT)

King Nebuchadnezzar—made [Daniel] chief over all the magicians, enchanters, astrologers, and fortune-tellers of Babylon.

—Daniel 5:11 (NLT)

The Magi Teach Me To...

1. Pursue The Truth.

- *After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem asking, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”*

—Matthew 2:1-2 (NLT)

- *When you call on me, when you come and pray to me, I'll listen. When you come looking for me, you'll find me. Yes, when you get serious about finding me and want it more than anything else, I'll make sure you won't be disappointed.*

—Jeremiah 29:12-14 (NCV)

2. Follow God's Stars.

- *King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?” “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they said, “for this is what the prophet wrote: ‘And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.’”*

—Matthew 2:3-6 (NLT)

- *Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!”*

—Matthew 2:7-8 (NLT)

- *After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy!*

—Matthew 2:9-10 (NLT)

3. Be Transformed.

- *Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be transformed into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.*

—Romans 12:2 (NLT)

- *They entered the house where the child and his mother, Mary, were, and they fell down before him and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.*

—Matthew 2:11 (NLT)

- *When it was time to leave, they went home another way.*

—Matthew 2:12 (NLT)

Follow Through Step:

Go home “another way” today than you normally would take. Reflect on how knowing Jesus has changed you.