Session 4: Dec. 26, 2021 Matthew 2:1-12 Sought Chapter 2

(1) Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,^a

(2) Asking, Where is He Who is born King of the Jews? Because we have seen His star in the east, and have come to worship Him.

(3) When Herod the king had heard these things, 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 demanded of them where Christ was supposed to be born.

2:1a – If the wisemen came from the Babylon area the trip was about four months - see Ezra 7:9

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(5) And they said to him, In Bethlehem of Judea: because it is written by the prophet,

(6) And you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the princes of Judah: because out of you shall come a Governor, Who shall rule My people Israel.^b

(7) Then Herod, when he had privately called the wise men, inquired 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 you have found *Him*, bring me word again, that I too may come and worship Him.

(9) When they had heard the king, they departed; and, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, until 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 to Him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

2:6b -Micah 5:2 -- According to tradition the wise men came to Jesus when He was twelve days old, hence the "twelve days of Christmas", and "epiphany". This fits with Luke's account Luke 2:22, 39 – but not with modern "pop" theology. The "star" probably first appeared at Jesus' conception so the wise men had 9 months to prepare and make their journey from the Babylonian area to Jerusalem and then to Bethlehem. Note: modern "pop" theology rejects Luke 2:22 and 2:39 and states the wise men came two years after Jesus' birth. See notes on "The Magi and The Date of Jesus' <u>Birth</u>" at: <u>www.TheWordNotes.com</u>

(12) And being warned by God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

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(13) And when they had departed, The Angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young Child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word: because Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.

(14) When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

(15) And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying,

Out of Egypt I have called My Son.^c (16) Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked by the wise men, was exceedingly angry, and sent forth, and killed all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all its surroundings, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.