

## Part II “Searching Heaven & Earth For A King!”

Matthew 2:1-8

Now after **Jesus** was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, **Wise Men (Magi)** from the **East** came to Jerusalem. “Where is **He Who** has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen **His Star** in the East and have come to **Worship Him!**” When Herod the king heard this; he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 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. So, they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the **Prophet (Micah)**, ‘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!**’” Then Herod, when he had secretly called the **Wise Men (Magi)**, determined from them **What Time the Star Appeared**. And he sent them to Bethlehem saying, “Go and search carefully for the young **Child**, and when you have found **Him**, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship **Him** also!” **Matthew 2:1-8 (NKJV)**

We should be asking ourselves right about now a very important Central Question:

**CQ: “How Did The Wise Men From The East: Babylon, Persia (Orient), & Chaldea Know That Jesus Christ, God’s Only Son Had Indeed Come To Earth As A Baby To Visit Us?”**

This is the question I will try to begin to answer this morning!

**Q1? – “What Was the Timeframe of these Events?”**

The Scripture Gives Us an Important Clue!

Now after **Jesus** was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, Behold, **Wise Men (Magi)** from the **East** came to Jerusalem. **Matthew 2:1**

**Commentary**

Modern scholars have moved the death of Herod the Great to the year 1 or 2 B.C. Not the 1 AD date we thought we knew. This is due to a mistake made by a Russian Orthodox Monk in the Dark Ages.

Therefore, Jesus would have to been born before these dates. Most modern theologians and most ancient theologians have His birth between 5 & 2 B.C.

I have narrowed to exactly 3 BC Using: History, Scripture, Extra Biblical Writings, Star Charts, & NASA!

**CQ: “What Did These Wise Men Actually Know?”**

Let’s Look at Their Question For A Clue!

**Q: “Where Is He Who Has Been Born King Of The Jews?” ... Matthew 2:2a**

Look at Their Incredible Statement of Knowledge & Faith!

**A: “For we have seen His Star in the East & have come to Worship Him!” ... Matthew 2:2b**

When Herod the king heard this; he was troubled, & all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests & scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the **Christ** was to be born. **Matthew 2:3-4**

**Commentary**

Just like the astronomers, sages, wise men had already done before him, Herod now begins his official formal, historical, scientific, & theological inquiry into the events surrounding this heavenly Sign of the appearance of a new star!

**Notice Micah the Prophet is Paraphrased by the Pharisees, Sadducees, Priests, & Scribes!**

So, they said to **him (Herod)**, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the **Prophet (Micah)**, ‘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!**’” **Matthew 2:5-6**

**Now Notice the Full Context Originally Given by Micah In His Writing!**

“‘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 All Israel, Whose goings forth are From Of Old, From Everlasting!**’ ...

... *“Therefore, He shall give them up, until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; then the remnant of His Brothers shall return to the Children of Israel. And He shall stand & feed His Flock in the Strength of the Lord, in the Majesty of the Name of the Lord His God; & they shall abide, for now He shall be Great to the Ends of the Earth; & this One Shall Be Our Peace!”*

Micah 5:2-5a (NKJV)

**Verse 7:** Then Herod, when he had secretly called the **Wise Men (Magi)**, determined from them **What Time the Star Appeared.** **Matthew 2:7**

**Commentary**

Coming late to these discoveries Herod does some more inquiring about the beginning date of these heavenly signs events in the heavens and the exact dating of this new star from these learned pagan wise men!

**NOTICE: “Appeared” – A Brand New Star Is Implied!**

And he (Herod) sent them (Wise Men) to Bethlehem saying, *“Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come & worship Him also!”* **Matthew 2:8**

**Commentary**

Herod schemes to stop this heavenly sign in the heavens from actually appearing as a sign in the flesh on the earth. He rejects God’s sovereign plan for salvation & God’s rightful rule in His life & he also hopes to rule in God’s place.

**According To Matthew**

**God Came To Dwell With Us As One Of Us, In The Person Of Jesus Of Nazareth,  
To Bring Salvation, Redemption, & The Forgiveness Of Sins To The Entire World!**

**Commentary**

Mathew dramatically proclaims this in the retelling of the story of pagan kings (wise men) that came to worship the Promised One of Heaven, the King of the Jews; the Chosen People of God!

Because the pagan people of the earth are represented in this story, God’s mercy, grace & forgiveness are demonstrated to be offered clearly for all people in the Incarnation of the Son of God in the Person of Jesus of Nazareth (Son of Man)!

Because these Non-Jewish men come to worship God in Christ, we are made aware of a universal divine plan of salvation written not only in the Hebrew Old Testament Scriptures but in the plan of creation told among the signs in the stars of the heavens, which are to be a sign to all of God’s sovereignty and love for all of us!

**Commentary**

*The story I am about to tell you* has nothing to do with astrology. Astrology claims that the stars dictate a person’s destiny or can tell your future as purposed by the corruption and deceit of the evil one.

**Astrology = No**

*The story I am about to convey* to you is from Astronomy, mathematical, historical, and scientific observations.

**Astronomy = Yes**

*It is also infused first and foremost* by the divine revelation of the Holy Spirit in His Holy Word (Scriptures), in His Handiwork in the Heavens Above during the Creation, & most importantly in His prompting & guiding into all Truth!

**Scripture = Always**

**List of Texts**

**Holy Bible: NKJV & NASB, Hebrew, Septuagint, & Greek Versions**

*“The Gospel of the Stars” (Joseph A. Seiss)*

*“The Heavens Declare” (William D. Banks)*

*“The Witness of the Stars” (E.W. Bullinger)*

*“The Gospel Proclaimed In The Stars” (D. James Kennedy)*

**The Story I Am About To Convey To You Is That God Himself  
Has Revealed To All Of Us His Will & His Plan For Us In The Stars,  
Which He Created On Day # 4 Of The Creation Week,  
Alongside His Spoken & Written Word  
God Therefore, Left For Us **Signs & Wonders**  
In The Heavens Above To Be Read & Understood By All!  
God's Sovereign Creation In The Stars = Natural Revelation Of God Himself!**

**Commentary**

Therefore, our destiny is wrapped up in God's sovereign will! His will is on display for everyone to read in His recorded Word, the Holy Bible! However, I contend that His will is also on display visually in the record of the signs in the stars of heaven and that story is perpetually on display each and every night to speak to us, if we will simply observe and hear their message! More on their speech, their voice & their message in just a bit!

**Q: "What is A Sign?"**

**A: A "Sign" Is Something Selected & Appointed To Represent Something Else!  
Stars = **Signs****

**According To The Biblical Record The Stars Are "Signs" To Us,  
That God Is The Creator & That He Has A Plan For This World & For Each & Everyone Us!  
Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; & let them be for **signs** & seasons, & for days, & years; & let them be for **lights** in the firmament of the heavens to give light on the earth"; & it was so. **Genesis 1:14-15 (NKJV)****

**Commentary**

The stars are chiefly an astronomical record of the Good News of creation and salvation revealed in the heavens. The heavens when understood properly give a natural revelation of God's existence & they correct the false teaching of astrology by giving a true account of astronomy & divine revelation. Astrology is therefore a perversion or a counterfeit of the evil one of the original message held in the stars.

According to the Gospel of Matthew Wise Men from the East came to worship Jesus, God's only Son because they saw His star rising in the East! They came for no other reason and no other evidence! The ancients like a man named Job knew that God had made the stars and had placed His message of good will toward all of us:

**"He made the **Bear (Ursa Major) – The Big Dipper** "The Sheep Gate" or "Door & The Sheepfold", ... and The **Hunter (Orion) – The Hunter** "The Conquering One Who Is To Come", ... and The **Seven Sisters (Pleiades) – The Fates** "The Seven Spirits Around the Throne Sent To the Seven Churches", and Situated in the **Sign** of the **Bull of God Himself (Taurus) – The Bull** "The Coming King of the Universe"! **Job 9:9a (NKJV)****

**"By His Spirit He Adorned the Heavens; His Hand Garnished (Pierced) the Fleeing Serpent (Hydra) – "The Ancient Red Dragon)." **Job 26:12 (NKJV)****

**"Can you bind the cluster of the **Pleiades** or loose the **Belt of Orion**? Can you bring out the **Mazzaroth** ("All of the Sacred Constellations of God the Creator of the Heavens") in its season? Or can you guide the **Great Bear With Its Cubs**?" **Job 38:31-32 (NKJV)****

**Show the Constellations (Mazzaroth) Slide  
"The Good News Hidden In The Night Sky!"**

**Isaiah also declared that the stars & the heavens were the work of God:**

**"To whom then will you liken Me, or to whom shall I be equal?' says the **Holy One**. **Lift up your eyes on high & see Who has Created these Things (Stars), Who brings out their Host (Stars) by Number; He Calls Them (Stars) All By Name, by the Greatness of His Might & the Strength of His Power; Not One (Heavenly Host) is missing."** **Isaiah 40:25-26 (NKJV)****

David also declared that the heavens were the work of God:

***“When I consider Your Heavens, the Work of Your Fingers, the Moon & the Stars, which You Have Ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him, & the son of man that You visit him?”***

**Psalms 8:3-4 (NKJV)**

***“He Counts the Number of the Stars; He Calls Them All By Name!”***

**Psalms 147:4 (NKJV)**

Finally, My Favorite of David that Declares This Mind-Boggling TRUTH:

***“The Heavens Declare the Glory of God & the Firmament Shows His Handiwork. Day unto day utters speech & night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where Their Voice (Stars) is not heard. Their Line (Zenith) has gone out through all the earth & Their Words (Stars) to the end of the world.”***

**Psalms 19:1-4 (NKJV)**

### **Commentary**

In the ancient texts the names of the constellations and the stars that make them up were given first to Adam and then to Seth the son of Adam and Enoch a later descendant of Seth. The ancient Egyptians attributed their understanding to these stars because of the teachings of Abraham’s Son Jacob and His son, Joseph who learned their understanding from the writings left to them by their descendants Seth and Enoch. In fact, Abraham, Jacob and later Joseph visited and lived in Egypt where Joseph became a great ruler under the Pharaoh.

Many of the ancient texts are now lost or destroyed and only a hand full remain of the near ancient texts. Yet all people groups on the earth ascribe the naming and telling of the story of the ancient heavens to our first ancestors. These people groups include the Chinese, Arabs, Egyptians, Persians, Babylonians, Greeks and Romans, just to name a few.

The Great Library of Alexandria according to later scholars around 500 BC to the present knew the earliest original names and origins of all the stars and their constellations. Most recently, in history is the well testified as truth by the great 8<sup>th</sup> century AD, Arabian, astronomer, Albumazer, who was not a Christian or a Jew, but a Muslim! Yet all these things have either been forgotten or corrupted throughout the centuries past. But Paul records the ancient natural revelation of the creation in his writings as well!

Finally, Paul the Apostle Said This Concerning Creation & God’s Judgement  
About Humankind’s Perversion of the Truth of the Message God Left For Us All!

***“For since the Creation of the World His Invisible Attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the Things that are Made, even His Eternal Power & Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not Glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, & their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, & changed the Glory of the Incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man, birds, four-footed animals, & creeping things.”***

**Romans 1:18-23 (NKJV)**

Each of the many constellations fall into 12 separate houses (called “Ways”) each with one major sign and three lesser signs for a total of 36 lesser signs, termed Decans (a part or piece of the Whole).

***“The Arrangement of the Gospel of the Star’s Message!”***

#### **I. Organization of the Stars**

- A. 12 Major Houses**
- B. Each House Subdivided - 3 Minor Houses (Decans)**
- C. Total of 48 Heavenly Signs**

#### **II. Organization of the Planets (Called Stars in Ancient Times)**

- A. 5 Planets (Visible in the Night Sky)**
- B. Sun & Moon Added as Signs & Omens**
- C. Total of 7 Heavenly Signs**

#### **III. “Signs” - Foretelling the Future Plan of God**

I have chosen to start where the ancients did long ago with Virgo!

Reckoning the Entire Universal Story of God & His Divine Plan for Us Starting at Virgo & Ending with Leo!

**Show the Alpha & the Omega Stars Slide**

**The Ancients Also Reckoned  
From Virgo (Beginning – Alpha) To Leo (Ending – Omega)**

**Show “DENDERAH” Slide**

And when an ancient King of Jews asked the prophet Isaiah about the future, Isaiah told him that God would allow King Ahaz to ask for a Sign. However, he would not ask, so Isaiah answered for God anyway! Moreover, the Lord spoke again to Ahaz, saying, *“Ask a Sign for yourself from the Lord your God; ask it either in the depth or in the height above.”* But Ahaz said, *“I will not ask, nor will I test the Lord! Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, O House of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary My God also? Therefore, the Lord Himself will give you a Sign: ‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive & bear a Son, & you shall call His Name ‘Emmanuel!’” Isaiah 7:10-14*

**Notice From Now On The Correlation Between:**

- 1) **Word Of God** (Bible & Divine Revelation),
- 2) **Science of Astronomy** (Creation & Math),
- 3) **Records Of The Ancient Peoples**

Historical & Scientific Observations & Records),  
That Have Gone On Before Us!

Next Week Part II:

*“**Searching Heaven & Earth For A King!**”*

**We Shall Search More Deeply Into The House Of Virgo For Our Answers!**