

THE WISDOM OF THE WISEMEN **Matthew 2:1-12**

The Scripture doesn't tell us much about the Wisemen.

1. *They came from eastern lands*. most likely Persia, or modern-day Iran.
2. Weather they were astrologers, priests, or kings, we simply don't know.
3. Most likely they knew of the prophecy of:
 - a. Daniel, giving a timeline for the birth of the Messiah. **Daniel 9:24-27**.
 - b. Balaam, specifically mentioning a "*star coming out of Jacob*." **Numbers 24:17**

What we do know about them was that they were wise.

I. THEY FOLLOWED THE LEADERSHIP OF THE LORD.

- A. They were guided by a miraculous stellar event, which they called "His star". **Matthew 2:1-6**

The star was likely an angel or a manifestation of the Shekinah Glory.

The Shekinah was the visible presence of the Lord.

Prior to this, the most notable appearance of the Shekinah was the pillar of cloud that led the Israelites by day and the pillar of fire that led them by night.

Those with eyes to see joyfully beheld His glory.

- B. They came to Jerusalem and asked concerning the birth of Christ, and they were directed to Bethlehem. **Matthew 2:7, 8**

They followed God's guidance joyfully. **Matthew 2:9, 10**

- C. They were determined to see him.

It is a common misconception that the wise men were at the stable. **Matthew 2:11**

1. The Greek word translated "young child" in verse 10 can mean anything from a newborn infant to a toddler.
2. They entered the house verse 11.

Not the stable.

3. Upon discovering the "exact time" the star first appeared to them, Herod ordered all male children two and under in Bethlehem to be killed.

He obviously thought the star of Bethlehem had first appeared when Christ was born.

- D. They would not give up!

Without God's help, none of us could ever find Him.

He must point the way.

He will, because He loves us, and wants us to be saved.

We can never give up!!!!

II. THEY SOUGHT JESUS FOR THE RIGHT REASON.

- A. They were not seeking Him to benefit themselves.
- B. They wanted to worship Him and adore Him as King of Kings.
- C. We condemn ourselves if we follow Him for the wrong reasons.

III. THEY GAVE JESUS THE VERY BEST THAT THEY HAD. **Matthew 2:11**

- A. It is important to note that they first gave them-selves before they gave their gifts.
- B. After their encounter with Jesus, God continued to direct their path. **Matthew 2:12**
- C. So in obedience to the Lord, and in defiance of king Herod, they left Judea by another route.

IV. THE EVIDENCE OF WISDOM

They were men who:

1. Read and believed God's Word.
2. Sought Jesus.
3. Recognized the worth of Christ.
4. Obeyed God rather than man.

They were truly wise men!!!!

Will you be wise???