

JESUS CHRIST  
JEHOVAH'S KING  
PRE MINISTERIAL EVENTS

1. THE MAGI

- A. Matthew 2:1-12 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem [2] and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." [3] When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. [4] When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. [5] "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: [6] " 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.'" [7] Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. [8] He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him." [9] After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. [10] When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. [11] On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. [12] And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

I. BORN IN BETHLEHEM

- (1) Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

II. WHO ARE THESE MEN?

(1) PROBABLY MEN OF ISSACHAR

- (a) 1 Chron. 12:32 men of Issachar, who understood the times and knew what Israel should do--200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command;

(2) MEN FROM FAMILIES THAT HAD BEEN CARRIED TO BABYLON

- (a) Daniel 1:17 To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.
- (b) Daniel 2:10-11 The astrologers answered the king, "There is not a man on earth who can do what the king asks! No king, however great and mighty, has ever asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or astrologer. [11] What the king asks is too difficult. No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among men."
- (c) Daniel 4:18 "This is the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezzar, had. Now, Belteshazzar, tell me what it means, for none of the wise men in my kingdom can interpret it for me. But you can, because the spirit of the holy gods is in you."

III. WHOM DID THEY SEEK?

(1) THE KING OF THE JEWS

- (A) ACCORDING TO THE ANCIENT SCHOLARS TACITUS AND SUERONIUS THERE WAS

A GENERAL EXPECTATION IN THE EAST THAT A KING WAS TO BE BORN IN JUDEA WHO WAS TO RULE THE WHOLE WORLD.

(I) DANIEL FORETOLD OF THIS TO THE YEAR.

(II) JESUS WAS BORN TO RULE AND HE WILL DO SO AFTER HIS SECOND ADVENT.

(2) SAW HIS STAR.

(A) Numbers 24:15-19 Then he uttered his oracle: "The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one whose eye sees clearly, [16] the oracle of one who hears the words of God, who has knowledge from the Most High, who sees a vision from the Almighty, who falls prostrate, and whose eyes are opened: [17] "I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel. He will crush the foreheads of Moab, the skulls of all the sons of Sheth. [18] Edom will be conquered; Seir, his enemy, will be conquered, but Israel will grow strong. [19] A ruler will come out of Jacob and destroy the survivors of the city."

IV. WHAT DID THE MAGI LEARN FROM HEROD?

(1) PROBABLY NOTHING.

(A) THESE WERE MEN WHO KNEW THE SCRIPTURES.

(I) SO THEY WOULD KNOW ABOUT BETHLEHEM.

(II) GOD DIRECTED THEM BY A STAR AND DREAMS.

(2) WHY DID THEY GO TO HEROD?

(A) PROBABLY SO THAT HE WOULD KNOW.

(B) THAT PROPHECY WOULD BE FULFILLED.

V. WHAT SHOULD WE HAVE LEARNED FROM THE MAGI?

(1) THAT JESUS WAS NEAR TWO YEARS OLD, THAT IS WHAT THE MAGI TOLD HEROD.

(2) THAT JESUS WAS NO LONGER IN BETHLEHEM.

(3) THEY DID NOT FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS OF HEROD, THEY FOLLOWED THE STAR.

VI. WHERE DID THE STAR LEAD THEM?

(1) MORE THAN LIKELY BACK TO NAZARETH HIS HOME WHERE HE HAS LIVED AFTER BEING PRESENTED TO THE FATHER 41 DAYS AFTER HIS BIRTH.

(A) Luke 2:7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

(b) Luke 2:21-39 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived.

[22] When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord [23] (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), [24] and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." [25]

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. [26] It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. [27] Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, [28] Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: [29] "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. [30] For my eyes have seen your

salvation, [31] which you have prepared in the sight of all people, [32] a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." [33] The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. [34] Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, [35] so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." [36] There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, [37] and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. [38] Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. [39] When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth.

VII. TAKE A MOMENT AND ASK YOURSELF WHY DID GOD SEND THESE MEN TO JESUS?

(1) THEY BOWED DOWN AND WORSHIPED HIM.

(A) GOD CONTINUED TO RECOGNIZE HIS SON.

(2) THEY GAVE HIM GIFTS?

(A) WHY?

(I) BECAUSE HE WAS GOING ON A TRIP THAT HIS EARTHLY FAMILY KNEW NOTHING ABOUT AND THE FATHER WAS GOING TO PROVIDE FOR HIM.

VIII. AND GOD NOW PROTECTS THE MAGI.

(1) HE SENDS THEM HOME ANOTHER WAY.

2. FLIGHT INTO EGYPT

a. Matthew 2:[13] When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." [14] So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, [15] where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

I. THE THIRD TIME THIS "ANGEL OF THE LORD" HAS SHOWN UP. WHAT IS GOING ON?

(1) HE WILL SHOW UP FOUR TIMES.

(A) MATTHEW 1:20

(B) MATTHEW 1:24

(C) HERE

(D) MATTHEW 2:19

(2) WHO IS TAKING SUCH CARE OF JESUS?

(A) Luke 1:26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,

II. THE FATHER WILL TELL JOSEPH WHEN TO RETURN.

III. THE PROPHECY WAS FULFILLED!

(1) Hosea 11:1 "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.

3. SLAUGHTER OF CHILDREN - THE FIRST ATTEMPT TO KILL THE KING

- a. Matthew 2:[16] When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. [17] Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: [18] "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

I. MEN ARE USED BY SATAN JUST AS GOD USES MAN FOR HIS PURPOSE.

(1) SATAN KNOWS WHAT HAS BEEN SAID.

- (A) Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."
- (B) 1 John 3:8 He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

(2) SATAN WILL TRY MANY TIMES TO KEEP JESUS FROM THE CROSS.

- (A) Col. 2:14-17 having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. [15] And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. [16] Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. [17] These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.
- (B) 1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

(3) Jeremiah 31:15 This is what the Lord says: "A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because her children are no more."

4. THE KING RETURNS FROM EGYPT

- a. Matthew 2:[19] After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt [20] and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." [21] So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. [22] But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, [23] and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: "He will be called a Nazarene."

I. AFTER HEROD DIED

(1) HEROD THE GREAT, SON OF ANTIPATER. ANTIPATER WAS MADE PROCURATOR OF JUDEA BY JULIUS CAESAR, 47 BC. HEROD WAS MADE GOVERNOR OF GALILEE WHEN 25 YEARS OLD AND WAS MADE KING OF JUDEA, 37 BC. HE REBUILT THE JEWISH TEMPLE. AT HIS DEATH IN **4 BC** HIS KINGDOM WAS DIVIDED. HIS SON HEROD ANTIPAS, REIGNED OVER GALILEE AND PEREA, 4 BC TO 39 AD. HE KILLED JOHN THE BAPTIST.

(A) OUR CALENDAR OFF ABOUT 4 TO 6 YEARS.