

# Epiphany Sunday

**Matthew 2:1-12 (New International Version, ©2010) – The Bible Gateway**

## **Matthew 2**

### **The Magi Visit the Messiah**

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi<sup>[a]</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup> ““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 shepherd my people Israel.”<sup>[b]</sup>”

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

<sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> 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, frankincense and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

**In Your Life** – taken from The Bare Bones Bible Handbook by Jim George

Jesus came to earth to die and pay the penalty for our sins, and, with His resurrection, to begin His kingdom reign. His teachings show you how to prepare for life in His kingdom. His kingdom will be fully realized at His return. Until then, all His subjects will be those who faithfully follow Him. The way to enter God's kingdom is by faith – believing in Christ alone to save you from sin. Then God will change you from the inside out to be a citizen of His kingdom. Are you one of His subjects? If so, are you faithfully sharing your King with your co-workers, family and friends as Matthew did?

Matthew (written by Matthew) Chapters 1-4 (the basics) taken from The Bare Bones Bible Handbook by Jim George

### **The Birth and Preparation of the King**

In these chapters we learn that Jesus, a direct descendant of David, is born of a virgin in fulfillment of prophecy. He is baptized and proclaimed by God as His Son. Jesus' divine character is tested by the devil after 40 days of fasting in the wilderness. Jesus used Old Testament scriptures to counter the devil's temptations. Having passed these tests, He begins His public ministry by preaching repentance and the coming kingdom of God.

#### *Life Lessons from Matthew*

- Jesus shows you the word of God is your best defense against the enemy of your soul.
- Jesus has conquered the power of death and provides the only path to overcoming it.
- Jesus has entrusted his message to His disciples, or His followers. You become a follower when you trust in Him.
- Jesus did not merely preach abstract religious ideas, but a new way of living.