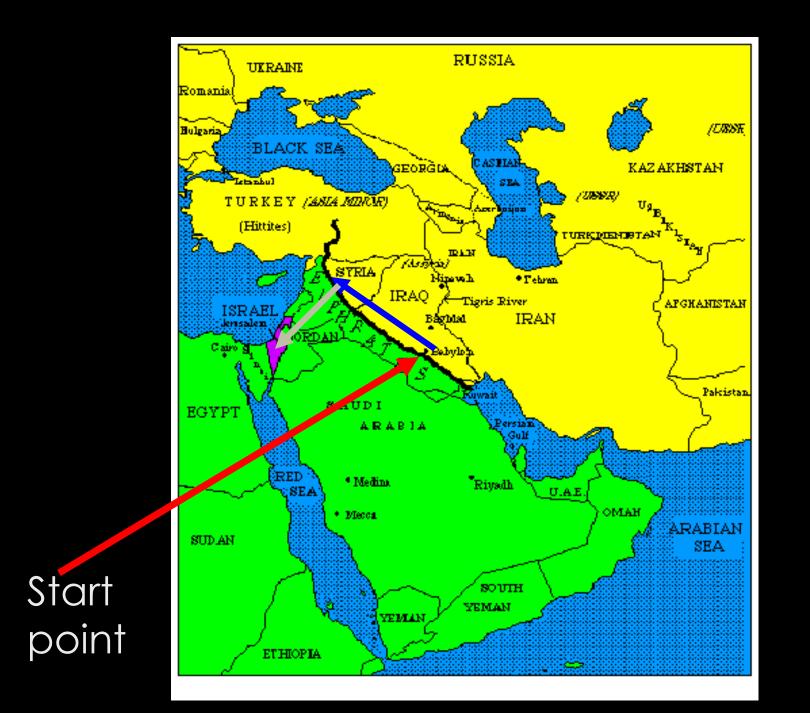


Matt 2:1-12

FINDING MY WAY TO THE MANGER



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• WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT THE MAGI.

- A. Advisors to kings. Gen 41:8, Daniel 2:27, 4:6, 5:7; Isaiah 47:13
- B. EDUCATED: MEDICINE, SCIENCE, STARS.
- C. SPIRITUAL ADVISORS (PRIESTS?) TO PEOPLES OF NON-ABRAHAMIC FAITH. DANIEL 5:7-8. STARS WERE THEIR "HOLY BOOK"

1. GOD'S INVITATION TO THE "MANGER" IS ALL-INCLUSIVE.

- A. THE LEAST LIKELY TO COME WERE THE ONES WHO DID.
- B. THEY CAME FREELY. NO ONE IS COMPELLED. (JEWISH RELIGIOUS LEADERS REJECTED THE INVITATION).
- C. EVEN "ENEMIES" GOT AN INVITATION JESUS SAID, "LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE..."

• AFTER THIS I LOOKED, AND BEHOLD, A GREAT MULTITUDE THAT NO ONE COULD NUMBER, FROM **EVERY NATION, FROM ALL TRIBES AND PEOPLES** AND LANGUAGES, STANDING BEFORE THE THRONE AND BEFORE THE LAMB, CLOTHED IN WHITE ROBES, WITH PALM BRANCHES IN THEIR HANDS, 10 AND CRYING OUT WITH A LOUD VOICE, "SALVATION BELONGS TO OUR GOD WHO SITS ON THE THRONE, AND TO THE LAMB!" (REV. 7:9-10 ESV)

2. THE INVITATION IS ALL-INCLUSIVE; BUT THE LANGUAGE IS "ME-SPECIFIC."

AFTER LISTENING TO THE KING, THEY WENT ON THEIR WAY. AND BEHOLD, THE STAR THAT THEY HAD SEEN WHEN IT ROSE WENT BEFORE THEM UNTIL IT CAME TO REST OVER THE PLACE WHERE THE CHILD WAS. ¹⁰ WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR, THEY REJOICED EXCEEDINGLY WITH GREAT JOY. (MATT. 2:9-10 ESV)

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3. IT IS IN THE JOURNEY, THE SEARCH, THAT HEARTS ARE CHANGED.

A. OCCUPATIONAL INTEREST – ASTRONOMERS;

- BEGAN BY SIMPLY FOLLOWING A STAR.
- WHEN DID THE JOURNEY CHANGE THEIR HEARTS?
- B. WORSHIP. V 2:2, 2:8 (HEROD), 2:11.

APPLICATION

- 1. WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO YOU THROUGH THE STEPS TAKEN BY THE MAGI? WHAT HAS HE REVEALED THAT YOU MUST TAKE ACTION UPON?
 - BOW IN PRAYER BEFORE HIM AND COMMIT TO A STEP OF OBEDIENCE TODAY.