

LED BY A “STAR”

When Herod got wind that the “King of the Jews” had been born, he desperately wanted to find how WHERE and WHEN so that he could KILL Him.

Matthew 2:7 (NKJV)

7 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared.

After dismissing the religious leaders (whom evidently, he didn’t trust) Herod had a secret private meeting with the wise men. He wanted to know from them what time the star had appeared to them.

We know from how the story unfolds that Herod was thinking this would indicate when the Messiah was born and based on that he had plans to kill every child born in Bethlehem from that time point until the present.

But again, in his folly he failed to realize that a God so great as to organize this STAR phenomenon would surely know what he was plotting. Oh, the small mindedness of a dark degenerate heart.

Proverbs 21:30 (NKJV)

30 There is no wisdom or understanding Or counsel against the Lord.

Only losers take on God! Wise Gamaliel said, “if it is of God you cannot overthrow it – lest you even be found to fight against God.” (Acts 5:39)

Matthew 2:8 (NKJV)

8 And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “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.”

What a “gamer”. Herod came off so “humble”. After finding out the “time frame” Herod sent them to Bethlehem and told them that once they had found the child to let him know so that he too could come and worship Him. But in truth he wanted to come and kill Him. He was being a total hypocrite to further his scheming, murderous purposes.

Matthew 2:9 (NKJV)

9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.

How sad, that although the religious leaders were very cognizant of the prophecy where Messiah would be born yet they showed zero interest in following it up. It was only 5 miles down the road and yet they did not even care enough to accompany the Magi on this 2-hour journey. They come off spiritually cold and indifferent which they proved to be.

“The religious leaders knew the answer to the question of the Magi, but they were too apathetic to prove their own answer.”

-Stanley Toussaint

What a contrast with these foreign Gentiles who diligently sought out the truth of the Messiah. When the wise men departed from king Herod once again the star appeared and led them to where the child was. Note it says, here, **“behold the star which they had seen in the East went before them”**. This suggests that while they had seen this star in the East it had not led them all the way.

In both verse 2 and verse 9 it is stated that they saw this star in the EAST. Somehow, they perceived from seeing this star that the King of the Jews had been born and they acted accordingly. Now all of the sudden here it was again, only this time it was leading them and did so **“till it came and stood over where the young Child was.”** Again, this suggests that this was a supernatural rather than a natural phenomenon.

“Bethlehem is about five miles south of Jerusalem. ‘Stars’ (i.e., planets) naturally travel from east to west across the heavens, not from north to south. Could it be that “the star” which the Magi saw and which led them to the specific house was the Shekinah glory of God? ... Perhaps this is what they saw in the East, and for want of a better term they called it a ‘star’”.

– The Bible Knowledge Commentary