

Matthew 2: 1-12

~~Topic~~

SUBJECT: Why The Wise Men
Were Wise

[Topic suggested in Bay. U.; Robert Doolittle]

μάγοι
medium friendly cast. in Berlin - religious tension
- philological "

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Wed
12/87

GP

Math. 2:1-12

Why the Wise Men were wise

μάγοι - Zoroastrians?

- Median priestly caste in Persia,
- teachers of religion & philosophy?

- KJV called "wise men." Why?

T. seeking God, they found Him through
a star, the astronomical heaven.

A scholar said: "I have read many
of the world's famous achievement books,
yet I never read an claim to be
an atheist. ... Sociologists, psychologists,
those dealing in the slippery sciences - these
are the atheists. (But the men who
are dealing with the cold, hard facts
of physics in the sciences are never
atheists. There is too much awe in
the universe for an astronomer to be
an atheist.)"

God spoke to the shepherds by angels
- the magi astronomer by the stars.

Why the wise men were wise? - they saw
the hand of God in the infirmities of the
universe around them. They recognize
God in the revelation of Himself.

II. Seeing the star, they heard the call
to find and followed after.

Revelation came to other learned people
in the world to name.

Whakem - not where born but in a
group had his hair should after receive
for an inheritance.

Moses ... in Egypt, in modern descent,
in the wilderness

David, born in Jerusalem, to Bolyon,
to Beana.

Paul noted not for long been
born in Tarsus, but for missing
journey set on Roman Empire.

THE DIFFICULT JOURNEY

The men were not willing
to travel an easy road. The ancient
Via Maris road crossed the most
desolate parts of the Arabian deserts,
over mountain passes infested with
bandits (at the start of the Samaritan).

Why the men were never? - because
of their remarkable willingness to go
to meet, to follow the star.
→ Where they the only ones to see the star?

III. They sought guidance wherever
they could find it. ^{OMNISCIENCE}
They did not claim to know it all.
God does not tell us the end of
the trail of life: he tells us how
to start, then he leads us on,
step by step, mile by mile, day
by day. We must have a
willingness to go, to do, to move.

There were men before their
journey guided by a star...
When reached Jerusalem, they
received further guidance through
David - a wise and old reprobate.

Then through the desert...
[NOTICE - NOT A SOUL MOVED]
Finally, are prepared to return
home, through a dream.

Why were the men more wise? -
because of their willingness to leave,
to be guided by all the providence
of God.

IV. Finding the Christ-child, they
worshipped him.
Wouldn't they expect? To find him,
the capital city, to find the King.

What they found:
stable for a palace
cows, sheep, horses, looking for attention
& mother for a waitress, servant
straw for a bed
obscure village (in the borderland) for
nobody for an army, worshippers.
this child the Prince? the King? the Son?
the Lord?

Why were the wise men wise?
"they worshipped him"
filled with joy, they humbly brought before him.
2. Why gave unto him gifts?
i. gold, the gift for King
ii. frankincense, the gift for priest
iii. myrror, the gift for suffering, death