



Matthew 2

1:1-12

New International Version
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² After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi^[a] 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 when it rose 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 Messiah 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 shepherd my people Israel.’”^[b]

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 search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me worship him.”

⁹ 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. 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, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



✧ Every Epiphany has a **PURPOSE**

God is continually drawing us to himself in everything we experience.

“For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed” Romans 1:17

✧ Every Epiphany has a **PLAN**

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”
Jeremiah 29:11

✧ Every Epiphany requires **PRESEVERANCE**

“I love those who love me, and those who seek me find me.” Pr 8:17

“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.”
Jeremiah 29:13

✧ My Epiphany begins with...

- **Scripture** – “you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. Mt 22:29
- **Worship** – “Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him Lk 24:31
- **Giving** – “Give, and it will be given to you” Lk 6:38



L: Peace be to this house and to all who enter here. “By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.” Proverbs 24:3

L: Let us pray: Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so enable those who dwell here to be your light in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

*Using chalk (hence, "Chalking the Door"), family members are invited to inscribe the lintel of the home (the horizontal frame above the door) with the inscription shown below. The letters C M B come from "**Christus Mansionem Benedicat**" which means "May Christ bless this dwelling!" Some also suggest the traditional (9th century) names for the "three kings" -- Caspar, Melchior & Balthazar.*

20 + C + M + B + 13

L: A reading from Isaiah: "The effect of righteousness is peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and quiet places."

People may join hands or extend their hand for a blessing.

L: Let us pray: Sovereign God, we pray that you will bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence, that your love may be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen**

L: May the Lord watch over our going out and our coming in, from this time forth and forevermore. **Amen.**