

THE ARRIVAL OF THE MAGI
(Matthew 2:1-3)

- I. The LOCATION of Jesus' Birth (Matt. 2:1a)
 - A. Bethlehem was HISTORICALLY significant
 - 1. Where Jacob BURIED RACHEL (Gen. 35:19)
 - 2. Where RUTH met BOAZ (Ruth 1:22-2:6)
 - 3. Where DAVID was born and reared (1 Sam. 17:12, 15)
 - B. Bethlehem was PROPHETICALLY significant
 - 1. Means "the HOUSE of BREAD" (cf. John 6:35, 48-51)
 - 2. To be the birthplace of the ETERNAL KING (Micah 5:2)

- II. The TIME of Jesus' Birth (Matt. 2:1b)
 - A. He was born when HEROD was KING (cf. Luke 1:5)
 - B. He was born in 5 or 6 B.C.

- III. The ANNOUNCEMENT of Jesus' Birth (Matt. 2:1c-2)
 - A. MAGI came from the EAST
 - 1. First appeared among the Medes during the time of ISAIAH

2. Became prominent as “WISE MEN” in Babylon (Dan. 6; Esther 1)
 3. Were KING-MAKERS in Persia, closely associated with the state RELIGION
 4. Were DOMINANT in Parthia during the Roman era
- B. They came to find the one “BORN King of the JEWS”
- C. They had seen “HIS STAR” in the east (cf. Nu. 24:17)
1. There is no coherent NATURAL explanation
 2. They saw a revelation of GOD’S GLORY
- D. They had come to “WORSHIP” Him

IV. The REACTION to Jesus’ Birth (Matt. 2:3)

- A. Herod “was TROUBLED”
- B. “ALL Jerusalem” was also “troubled”