

# SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Online Only Via Facebook Live Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm



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## Bible Study Schedule Dec 2021

Date	Study Title	Scriptures
12/1/2021	To Us a Child Is Born: Isaiah's Prophecy	Isaiah 9:1-7
12/8/2021	Nothing Is Impossible: Mary And The Angel	Luke 2:26 – 56
12/15/2021	In Search Of The King: The Magi Meet Jesus	Matthew 2:1-18
12/22/2021	Christmas Break	No Study
12/29/2021	Winter Break	No Study

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## This Week's Lesson – December 15, 2021

### Advent Of The Savior

#### Lesson 3:

## In Search Of The King: The Magi Meet Jesus

### Matthew 2:1-18

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### Introduction to Mathew 's Gospel

**Author:** Matthew (Levi) the disciple and former tax collector.

**Date of Writing:** probably in A.D. 55-65.

**Purpose of Writing:** Matthew intends to prove to the Jews that Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah.

**Practical Application:**

- Matthew's Gospel is an excellent introduction to the core teachings of Christianity.
- The logical outline style makes it easy to locate discussions of various topics.
- Matthew demonstrates how Christ fulfills OT prophecies.



The Apostle  
Matthew

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## Overview of Matthew 2:1 – 18



**The Magi Come To Herod In Inquire About The New-born King**



**The Magi Sent To Bethlehem And find The Star Leading To Jesus**



**The Magi Worship and Bring Gifts To The Child Jesus**

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## Overview of Matthew 2:1 – 18



**The Magi Warned By The Lord Not To Return To Herod**



**An Angel Visits Joseph As Tell Him To Take The Child And Mother To Egypt.**



**Herod Angrily Orders The Death Of Children In Bethlehem**

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## Read Matthew 2:1 – 18

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### Matthew 2:1 – 4 (NKJV)

**1** Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, [a]wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,

**2** saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

**3** When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

**4** And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

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### **Matthew 2:5 – 8 (NKJV)**

**5** So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

**6** ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’ ”

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

**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.”

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### **Matthew 2:9 – 12 (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.

**10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.

**11** And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**12** Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed for their own country another way.

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**Matthew 2:13 – 15 (NKJV)**

**13** Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.”

**14** When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt,

**15** and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.”

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**Matthew 2:16 – 18 (NKJV)**

**16** Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.

**17** Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying:

**18** “A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more.”

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1. Compare and contrast Jesus the heavenly king and Herod the earthly king in this chapter.

### Jesus: The King Of Kings

- Willing To Leave His Throne Too Sacrifice And Serve.
- He Is The Living Word And The Fulfilment Of OT Prophecy.
- Giving His Life For Guilty Sinner Against A Holy God.
- Worthy Of Worship And Praise From The Lowly To The Kings.

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*"...The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Matt. 20:28 (NKJV)*

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1. Compare and contrast Jesus the heavenly king and Herod the earthly king in this chapter.

### Herod: The king of the Jews

- Would not leave his throne to seek or serve the King.
- Rejected the Word and stood in opposition to the Will of God
- Was motivated to steal, kill and destroy innocents to maintain power.
- Wanting to selfishly retain power for earthly gain.

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*"The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, ...6 But not so among you..." Luke 22:25 -26 (NKJV)*

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## 2. What can we discover about the Magi?

- **Foreigners:** They were Gentiles from the East looking to worship and present gifts the One born “King of the Jews”.
- **Financially Well Off:** Resources travel to seek the Child bringing expensive gifts (Frankincense, Gold and Myrrh).
- **Faithful:** They were determined to find the Child – no matter the cost or disappointments.
- **Feared God:** In obedience to the Lord, they went “another way” – Fearing God more than King Herod.

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*Note: What is important to note is that these foreigners are able to find out about his birth and come to celebrate him...*

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## 3. Compare and contrast the response of the religious leaders (vv. 4-6) to the response of the Magi (vv. 7-12).

### **The Religious Leaders**

- They knew the Prophecy of where the King/Saviour would be.
- Although knowing where Jesus was and there was a search for Him – had no desire to see Him for themselves.
- They had a greater reverence for an evil/earthy king instead of the King of kings.

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*“...Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, ... and their foolish hearts were darkened.” Rom. 1:21*

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3. Compare and contrast the response of the religious leaders (vv. 4-6) to the response of the Magi (vv. 7-12).

### The Magi:

- They were sincere in their search for the King/Messiah.
- When told where to find The Child they set out find Him.
- They rejoiced when they saw and worshipped Christ.
- They had more allegiance to Word from the Lord than to King Herod.

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*“And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.” Jer. 29:13 (NKJV)*

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4. How does Herod's search compare with that of the Magi (vv. 13-16)?

### King Herod's Search

- Sinful Pride: Motivated By, Fear, Anger and Greed.
- Sneaky Pretense: Seeking Jesus with impure motives.
- Selfish Priorities: Unwilling to leave his own throne to find the King.
- Sickening Plans: Willing to kill innocents rather than humility and worship.

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*“Therefore, let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, ... both Lord and Christ.” Acts 2:36 (NKJV)*

18

4. How does Herod's search compare with that of the Magi (vv. 13-16)?

### The Magi's Search

- They were motivated by a desire to worship the King/Messiah.
- They rejoiced when they saw the Star.
- They were sincere in their search to find the King.
- They were willing to sacrifice time, preference and resources to worship the King.

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*"the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks" Jn. 4:23*

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5. What are some different responses to Jesus?

- **Opposition:** Unbelief of who Jesus is and our guilt of sin leads to aggressive opposition.
- **Indifference:** Caring more about the things of this world rather than the world to come.
- **Superficiality:** Giving assent to faith in Christ but not having the heart or sincerity to carry it through to end.
- **Faith/Trust:** Hearing and believing the message of Jesus and giving wholehearted devotion and sacrifice to the Lord.

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*"But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred." – Mark 4:20 (NKJV)*

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## 6. What might cause people to respond to Jesus differently?

- **Satan**: The wicked one--afraid of losing a victim to Christ finds ways to draw attention from the Lord.
- **Shallowness/Superficiality**: A lack of seriousness about eternal/Godly Things
- **Selfishness**: Over-emphasis on the riches and pleasures of this world
- **Spirituality**: A heart soft and tender, stirred to its depths on the great things of eternity

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*"Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts; now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" Heb 3:15, II Cor 6:2 (KJV)*

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## 7. God is the unseen actor throughout the chapter. In what ways can we see his behind-the-scenes actions (vv. 6, 15)?

Scriptures	God's Behind The Scenes Actions
6 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' "	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God moved the Roman Gov. to call for a census to get Jesus Bethlehem.</li> <li>• God moved the Wise men to seek Jesus.</li> <li>• Enlightened the Religious leaders to find the Prophecy in Mic 5:2 on the Messiah's Birth.</li> <li>• Sent the Star to guide the Magi to Jesus.</li> </ul>
15 and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son."	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God guided the Magi not to return to Herod.</li> <li>• God even allowed Herod to murder innocent Children to fulfill OT prophecy.</li> <li>• God speaks to Joseph to take Mary and the Child and Mary to Egypt and to return after Herod's Death.</li> </ul>

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8. What might help you to foster a season of Advent which is centered on the Christ child?

**Here are 10 ways to keep Christ at the center of your Christmas celebration:**

1. Read The Bible Story With Your Family. (Matthew 1:18-2:23, Luke 2:1-20)
2. Walk Through Old Testament Prophecies About The Birth Of Christ.
3. Use An Advent Calendar With Scripture In It.
4. Watch A Christ-Focused Movie.
5. Look for ways to counter the wrong Messages About Christmas.

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8. What might help you to foster a season of Advent which is centered on the Christ child?

6. Listen To Christ-Exalting Christmas Music.
7. Remember The Dangers Of Materialism.
8. Give Christ-Centered Gifts.
9. Make The Highlight Of Your Christmas Serving Others.
10. Share Christ With Others.

*“Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” Luke 2:10, 14 (NKJV)*

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## Keys For Living

- God uses the most unlikely people to do the most amazing things for Him and for sake of the Gospel of the Kingdom.
- The more we study and internalize the Bible the better will know who God is and who we are in Him.
- As we put our faith and trust in Jesus for salvation, we can also believe that anything we need is possible with God.

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