

Matthew 2:1-11

“The Joyful Rest of Jesus”

I. **Matt. 2:1-11**

A. **V.1-2 – The Magi**

- 1) Timing of their arrival: *after* Jesus was born = varied with that of the shepherds – Luke 2:15-16.
- 2) **The Magi recognized 2 things:**
 - a) **King of the Jews** – Gen. 49:10; Num. 24:19; 2 Sam. 7:12-17; Ps. 72:10; Is. 9:6-7; Zech. 9:9-10; Micah 5:2; Luke 1:32-33
 - b) **His star** – Num. 24:17; Is. 60:3; Rev. 22:16
 - i) *Men from a faraway land recognized Jesus as King/the Messiah, but His own people in His birthplace did not* – Deut. 4:29; Prov. 8:17; Jer. 29:13

B. **V.3-4 – Herod**

- 1) Why was Herod troubled & *all* of Jerusalem with Him?
 - a) *Herod not of the proper lineage to be King of the Jews/Israel.*
 - b) *Hated by the Jewish people, if the Messiah was born of the proper lineage, his throne would be threatened.*
 - c) *If Herod felt threatened, his violent response would have caused great concern amongst the people.*
- 2) **Connected the “King of the Jews” (v.2) with “the Christ”** – Micah 5:2; John 1:41
 - a) *A wicked ruler also recognized Jesus as the Messiah.*

C. **V.5-6 – the religious leaders**

1) Also connected **the Christ** with the prophecy in Micah 5:2, the same one we have today.

D. V.7-8 – shows approx. age of Jesus at this time – v.16.

E. V.9 – the star (**His star – v.2**)

1) Went before them. ****Stars travel East to West, not North to South – Bethlehem is 5 miles South of Jerusalem – v.1, 8. What was this star???** – **Ex. 13:21-22**; 16:7, 10; 24:16-17; 40:34-35; Ps. 18:28; 27:1; 119:105; Is. 60:19-20; John 8:12; 12:35-36, 46; 1 John 1:5-9.

2) *Their travels weren't random = the Scriptures* – Ps. 119:130.

II. **The Magi's response to the Messiah – v.10-11**

A. V.10 – exceedingly great joy

B. V.11 – worship & gifts

1) *Out of the worship of their joy, they gave Jesus gifts from their treasures; they gave Jesus their very best* – Matt. 6:19-21.

C. V.10 – exceedingly great joy = excessively great, cheerful, delight.

1) Why did they rejoice with exceedingly great joy *now*, having seen & followed the star before?

a) *Now it was still, (whereas apparently before it had been moving), signifying their journey/seeking was over! They found what they were looking for after following for a great distance!*

III. **Matt. 1:17 – the “Rest” of Jesus**

A. 14 generations:

1) From Abraham to David.

2) From David to Babylonian captivity/exile.

3) From Babylonian captivity/exile to Jesus.

a) 3 sets of 14 = 6 sets of 7, or, “six sevens”

- i) Genesis 2:2 – God rested on the 7th day
 - ii) Mosaic law (Exodus 23:10-11) – farm land given rest every 7th year
 - iii) Leviticus 25 – last year of the 7th period of 7 years was the year of Jubilee = all slaves set free; all debts paid/forgiven
- b) *The beginning of the 7th seven; the Sabbath of Sabbaths, is Jesus! The final & ultimate rest is King Jesus!!!*
- i) Rom. 8:18-23; Heb. 4:1-11; Rev. 1:8

4) ***Every longing & searching in this world ends with Christ.***

- a) *So many are looking for various things in this life; things they never find.*
- b) *They have no rest because their search never ends and their search never ends because they're looking in the wrong places; they're looking for answers that only God provides!*
- c) *There's only One answer to the longings of this life: Jesus!*
- d) *Share in the joy of the Magi, knowing that your search is over!*