

## Matthew 2:1-12

New Revised Standard Version

### The Visit of the Wise Men

**2** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men<sup>[a]</sup> from the East came to Jerusalem, **2** asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,<sup>[b]</sup> and have come to pay him homage." **3** When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; **4** and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah<sup>[c]</sup> was to be born. **5** They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

**6** 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd<sup>[d]</sup> my people Israel.'"

**7** Then Herod secretly called for the wise men<sup>[e]</sup> and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. **8** Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." **9** When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,<sup>[f]</sup> until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw that the star had stopped,<sup>[g]</sup> they were overwhelmed with joy. **11** On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### Footnotes

- a. [Matthew 2:1](#) Or *astrologers*; Gk *magi*
- b. [Matthew 2:2](#) Or *in the East*
- c. [Matthew 2:4](#) Or *the Christ*
- d. [Matthew 2:6](#) Or *rule*
- e. [Matthew 2:7](#) Or *astrologers*; Gk *magi*
- f. [Matthew 2:9](#) Or *in the East*
- g. [Matthew 2:10](#) Gk *saw the star*