



QA: Who Were the “Wise Men” Who Saw Baby Jesus? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: “Who were the ‘wise men’ who saw baby Jesus?”

ANSWER: No “wise men” did see baby Jesus! The Bible account says nothing about their names, origin, or number. All of this has been added by uninspired men to the inspired Bible text, and therefore is only myth, not Bible fact.

1. Let’s refer to the Gospel of **Matthew 2:1-2**:

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 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.”

- a. **These wise men** (Greek, *magi*) **came “after Jesus was born,” not the very day Jesus was born.** How long after is seen when Herod killed “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 determined from the wise men” (**Matthew 2:16**). Herod determined Jesus was no longer a “babe,” but could have been over a year old by the time the “wise men” had made their inquiry.
- b. “His star” had been seen “in the East” but the magi had to guess at the king. They came to “Herod the king” in Jerusalem, but Jesus was never “born King of the Jews!” This mistaken and wrong belief was attached to Jesus from birth to death; it ignored the fact that His “kingdom is not of this world” (**John 18:36**). *The physical Jews were/ are not Jesus’ kingdom.*
- c. *Worship was to be paid in the presence of Him who was to be worshipped, and not from their distant homes!*

2. Continue to **Matthew 2:9-11**:

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

- a. “The star” then **miraculously** led them to the **specific house — not the manger —** where they found “the **young Child** ” — **not a babe** in

swaddling clothes — with Mary His mother. **That "star" could not have been some regular astronomical occurrence** for none have ever been that direct, or low, so as to indicate a specific dwelling; nor has it ever been seen again with regularity; nor has any astronomical occurrence "stood" over one house.

- b. They had seen "the star" which was "in [from] the East;" or they were themselves in the East when they saw the star.
- c. And notice that **this "star" was distinctly different from all other stars** in the heaven!

3. **Interestingly, the light of the star pointed the way to "the light of the world" (John 8:12), but when He died,**

It was about the sixth hour, and **there was darkness over all the earth** until the ninth hour. **Then the sun was darkened**, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. (**Luke 23:44-45**)

God's sacrifice ended the need for the earthly temple in Moses' Law.

— jtpll, December 10, 2023

A WISE MAN ON "THE WISE MEN"

Brother Burton Coffman, in his commentary on **Matthew 2** wrote:

"The coming of those wise men to Christ has been compared to the experience of certain ones who come to Christ now:

- (1) They followed a little light, the star.
- (2) They arrived at the wrong place.
- (3) They asked for more light.
- (4) They did not receive it from men but from God's word, the Bible.
- (5) They followed the additional light which they obtained from **Micah 5:2**.
- (6) They found the Lord in Bethlehem.
- (7) Lo, the star came; and it appeared that they had not lost any light but kept all they previously had.
- (8) They worshipped him.
- (9) They returned another way!

Many, in groping their way out of denominational strife and error, have retraced the steps of those original wise men. Martin Luther loved the spiritual lesson derived from this incident. [Luther] said, 'When the wise men relied upon their judgment and went straight to Jerusalem without consulting the star, God lifted it out of heaven and left them bewildered to make inquiry of Herod who then called his wise men, and they searched the Scriptures. And that is what we must do when we are bereft of the star.'" — (R. H. Bainton, **Here I Stand**, Nashville, Tennessee: Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1950, p. 368)."