



WHERE IS HE WHO HAS BEEN BORN KING OF THE JEWS?

MATTHEW 2:1-12

Who were the "wise men from the east"?

God uses all kinds of factors in the hearts of men and women to create a "searching" for Him, which He uses to draw the unto Himself.

Having been set out on their journey by a supernatural star, they seem pleased to finish it by human reason and deduction;

COLOSSIANS 2:6

⁶ Therefore, *as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him.*

—The world situation and the powerful influence held by the Magi—

"There had spread all over the Orient an old and established belief that it was fated at that time for men coming from Judea to rule the world."
—Suetonius

"There was a firm persuasion at this very time the east was to become powerful and rulers coming from Judea were to acquire a universal empire."
—Tacitus

—The star—

Prophecies that speak of stars and lights in divine and messianic ways;

NUMBERS 24:17

¹⁷ I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: *a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel...*

EZEKIEL 10:1, 3-4, 18

¹ Then I looked, and behold, on the expanse that was over the heads of the cherubim there appeared above them something like a sapphire, in appearance like a throne...³ Now the cherubim were standing on the south side of the house, when the man went in, and a cloud filled the inner court. ⁴ And the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub to the threshold of the house, and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was filled with the brightness of the glory of the LORD...¹⁸ Then the glory of the LORD went out from the threshold of the house, and stood over the cherubim.

ISAIAH 9:2

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a *great light*; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, *on them has light shone.*

ISAIAH 60:3

³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

God leading His people by glorious lights in the heavens;

EXODUS 13:21

²¹ And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a *pillar of fire to give them light*, that they might travel by day and by night.

The first and second coming of Christ both accompanied by great celestial lights;

LUKE 2:9

⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the *glory of the Lord shone around them*, and they were filled with great fear.

MATTHEW 24:27, 30

²⁷ For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man...³⁰ *Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man*, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and *great glory*.

The prophecy that identified Bethlehem;

MICAH 5:2

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

He came to His own, but His own did not care;

JOHN 1:11

¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

The star led them to Bethlehem, but the Word was needed to lead them to the Christ;

JOHN 5:39

³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.

LUKE 24:25-27

²⁵ And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, *he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself*.

The arrival of Christ divides all of humanity into two camps: those loving His appearance, and those enraged by His appearance;

2 TIMOTHY 4:8

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also *to all who have loved his appearing*.

Coming into contact with Christ means you leave in "a different way";

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, *he is a new creation*. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.