



Jesus Birth:
Before and After
Worshipping With the
Wise Men
Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men are an example of the 'cost' of worship. Are we willing to pay the price of seeking the presence of God?

A. The Distance to Worship :1-2

- Wise men had Bible knowledge *Num 24:17*
- Wise men had scientific knowledge (astronomy)
- This knowledge was not enough to satisfy them
- There is often a long journey between knowledge and worship

B. Opposition to Worship :3-8

- Unbelief filled Jerusalem
- Belief filled the Gentile wise men
- Not everyone is interested in true worship and some would even seek to destroy it :8; 16
- What we worship, we depend upon and trust in

C. The Cost of Worship :1; 11

- Wise men left family and home behind
- Wise men brought something costly to offer to the King (the Messiah)
- They brought gifts suitable for a king
- If it doesn't cost you anything it's not worth anything
- The price of God's presence (worship) includes our time, energy, emotion, feeling, tears, sorrow and even pain. It cost us everything! *Rom 12:1-2*

D. True Worship

- The wise men rejoiced when they saw the star but that was NOT what they were seeking
- They did NOT worship Mary or Joseph
- They fell down before the King of Kings
- The gifts were an expression of worship

Only God is worthy of worship.
True worship is putting my life in God's hands.
All of my giftedness is for worship.
All of my spiritual gifts are for worship.
"God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." *John 4:24*

Matthew 2:1-12

1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,
2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.
3 When Herod the king had heard these things, 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 demanded of them where Christ should be born.
5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet,
6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.
7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.
8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw 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 exceeding great joy.
11 And when they were 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 unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.
12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.