## **The wise men, Daniel, and John the Baptist March 30, 2025**

## ***Matt 2:1 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, 2 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.”***

## **First the problem of the “Herods” in John’s and Jesus’ ministry.**

## **They were a wicked political dynasty during Jesus’s time and ended at the destruction of Jerusalem.**

## **Herod *the Great* is ruling in Matthew 2.**



## **He is the Herod who kills the babies. He also killed his sons, because of his fear of them usurping the throne. It was said that: *“it was safer to be one of Herod’s pigs than one his sons”***



## **He was ruthless, wicked evil, and paranoid.**

## **It is this time that the Babylonia Magi or *magicians* show up.**



## **They were astronomy/astrologers from the East… Babylonia area!**

## **There are some questions here to answer!**

## **How would some Magi 900 miles away with a trip that would take 4 months, even know or care about a *baby* in Bethlehem?**

## **How would they even know about a Jewish King being born and why worship HIM? They didn't worship other Jewish Kings.**



## **What is this about HIS star?**



## **None of this makes any sense unless they knew the Hebrew scriptures**

## **God’s word is literal, accurate and clear!**



## **There was a Godly man 500 years ago taken captive by the Babylonia empire who literally saved all the group they belonged to.**



## ***Dan 2:1 Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar’s reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him. 2 Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.***

## ***3 And the king said to them, “I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream.” 4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, “O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation.”***

## ***5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, “My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap.***



## ***11 “It is a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.”***



## ***12 For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave the command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. 13 So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.* Daniel through God’s grace reveals it!**

## ***Dan 2:36 “This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. 38… you are this head of gold. 39 “But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.***

## ***40 “And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.***

## ***41 “Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay.***

## ***42 “And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. 43 “As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.***

## ***44 “And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.***



## ***45 “Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold–the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this.***

## ***The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”***



## **But he had another prophetic revelation from Gabriel!**

## **Daniel was praying waiting for the Kingdom and Gabriel corrected his thinking that the end of the 70-year captivity was not it but that it would be longer!**



## ***Daniel 9:24 “Seventy weeks are determined For your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins,***



## ***To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.***

## ***25 “Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.***

## **First: The seventy sevens**

## **490 yrs are to be cut out from the time of the Gentiles.**

## **From the command to rebuild Jerusalem**

## **until Messiah there are 49 yrs and 434 yrs, or a total 483 years. The Magi knew time was up.**



## **Jerusalem was rebuilt in 49 yrs. 434 years later Messiah would be born.**

## **His star: They knew about the prophecies in Numbers.**



## ***Numbers 24:17 “I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel, And batter the brow of Moab, And destroy all the sons of tumult. 18 “And Edom shall be a possession; Seir also, his enemies, shall be a possession, While Israel does valiantly. 19 Out of Jacob One shall have dominion, And destroy the remains of the city.”***



## **So, both those prophecies guided them there. The Star wasn’t a physical sun type star this star means brilliance, light!**

## **This is the return of the Shechinah glory of GOD.**



## ***John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.***



## **Lastly, the Magi bring:**

## **Gold-symbol of Divinity.**

## **Frankincense- used in burnt offerings Myrrh- used in embalming, for easing pain.**

## **Next week: John the messenger**