

The Real “Christmas” Story Week 3: Magi

Matthew 1:18-2:23 and Luke 2:1-20

Getting the facts straight

Jesus birth was not actually on year 0

Luke 2:1-2

Jesus was most likely born in a cave

Luke 2:7

Jesus was not born on December 25th

Luke 2:8

The wise men were not kings, and actually saw Jesus in a house at least a year later.

Matthew 2:1-12

Just like many details of the event have been changed or embellished over time, so have the characters.

The Real Magi...Matthew 2:1-12

“Honorable men from an eastern religion” “specialists in astronomy”

They were _____; with great devotion to the one true God

There were 3 _____, not necessarily 3 _____

They worshiped Jesus – brought _____ to Him

They followed God’s _____ in all they did

King Herod...

Showed what seemed genuine interest in Jesus, but really had hidden _____

How it applies today...

There are no _____ when it comes to God

Matthew 2:1b-2 (NLT) Some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”

They are a great example of _____

Matthew 2:11 (NLT) They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

God still leads us through every step of the _____

Matthew 2:12 (NLT) When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

There are lots of _____ in this world

Matthew 2:16a (NLT) Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him.

What is standing _____ you and Jesus?

Final Thought: Let’s all follow the example of the Magi, and work through whatever comes between you and the one thing worthy of your worship; the one true living God.