

# Deep in Scripture

## Today's Scripture Text:

### Matthew 2:1-23

#### Matthew, chapter 2

1: Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying,

2: "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."

3: When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;

4: and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

5: They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it is written by the prophet:

6: `And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will govern my people Israel."

7: Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star appeared;

8: and he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."

9: When they had heard the king they went their way; and lo, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came to rest over the place where the child was.

10: When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy;

11: and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

12: And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

13: Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

14: And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt,

15: and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

16: Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men.

17: Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

18: "A voice was heard in Ramah,  
wailing and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;

she refused to be consoled,  
because they were no more."

19: But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying,

20: "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead."

21: And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.

22: But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.

23: And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

## Today's Discussion Notes:

### WHEN?

- "Jesus was born" (2:1)
- "In the days of Herod the King" (2:1)
- "All the male children in Bethlehem & the region 2 years & under killed by Herod"
- Herod died (2:19)
- Archelaus reigned over Judea (2:22)

### WHERE?

- Bethlehem of Judea (2:1)
- The East (2:1)
- To Jerusalem (2:1)
- To Egypt (2:14)
- Nazareth (2:23)

### WHO?

- Jesus (2:1)
- Herod the King (2:1)
- Wise men from the East (2:1)
- "He who was born King of the Jews" (2:2)
- "All Jerusalem" (2:3)
- Chief priests (2:4)
- The prophet (2:5) [Micah 5:2]
- "The child" (of the prophecy)
- Mary the mother (2:11)
- The Angel of the Lord (2:13)
- Joseph
- The prophet (2:15) [Hosea 11:1]
- "All the male children . . ." (2:16)
- The prophet Jeremiah (2:17)
- "Rachel" (2:18)
- Archelaus (2:22)

- The prophets (2:23) [?]

#### WHAT?

- The stories themselves . . .
- The Gifts

#### WHY?

- Fulfilled prophecy
- Response to the message of the Messiah:
  - The proud (Herod)
  - The wise (the Magi)
  - The righteous (Joseph)