

The Gospel of Matthew #8

THE MYSTERIOUS MAGI

Matthew 2:1-12 (I)

2 advantages to preaching this in April

I. 4 Questions

- A. Where did they see Jesus?
- B. How many magi were there?
- C. What was the star that led them?
- D. WHO WERE THEY, and why were they seeking Him?

II. 4 Clues

- A. They were men of _____ and _____
(magi → magistrate)
 - access to Herod
 - costly gifts (probably with armed guards to protect them)
- B. They were _____ from the East
Possibly priests of Zoroastrianism, religion of Persia
- C. They had some knowledge of the Jewish hope of Messiah as the coming King
- D. They see Him as _____ of their time, gifts, honor

III. One likely solution

Daniel 2:48

IV.3 Lessons for us

A. Extent of God's _____

The magi were

1. Gentiles outside of the covenant

i.e. they didn't "belong"

2. Babylonians

i.e. enemies of God's people!

3. Astrologers

i.e. New Agers who into unhealthy stuff

B. First fruits of God's Kingdom

They are God's message at Jesus' birth that He came for people like you and me

Isa 42:6-7; 49:6 Matthew begins & ends with Missions

C. Power of God's Word

Isa 55:10-11

You think your sharing the gospel has no effect?

Be encouraged