

The Magi

Matthew 2:1-15

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? We have seen his star in the east and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened. He called together the chief priests and the teachers of the law.

Where is this Christ was to be born?

They told him, “in Bethlehem in Judea; for this is what the prophet has written: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, saying to them, “Go and search diligently for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.

After they had heard the king, the Magi went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and incense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.

“Get up, take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

So, Joseph got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so it was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Joseph brought the child and his mother back to Israel to the town of Nazareth. Where the child grew in wisdom, and strength, and grace.