



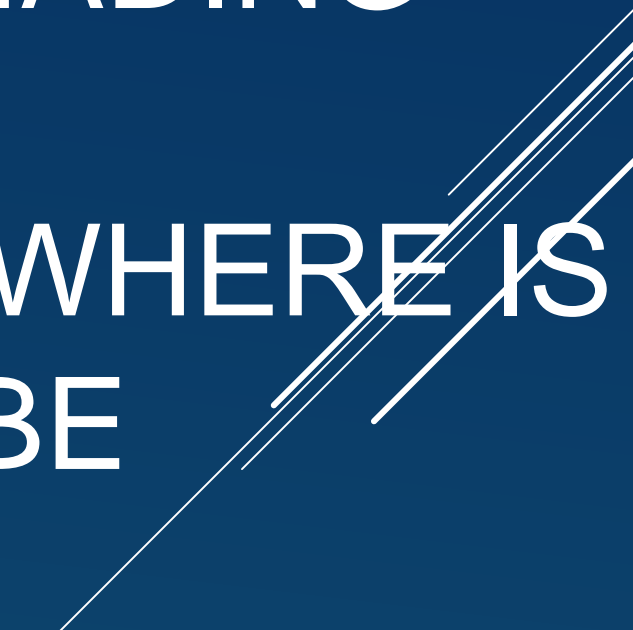
1 JESUS WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM
IN JUDEA, DURING THE REIGN OF
KING HEROD. ABOUT THAT TIME
SOME WISE MEN FROM EASTERN
LANDS ARRIVED IN JERUSALEM,
ASKING,



2 “WHERE IS THE NEWBORN
KING OF THE JEWS? WE SAW
HIS STAR AS IT ROSE, AND WE
HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM.”



3 KING HEROD WAS DEEPLY
DISTURBED WHEN HE HEARD THIS, AS
WAS EVERYONE IN JERUSALEM. 4 HE
CALLED A MEETING OF THE LEADING
PRIESTS AND TEACHERS OF
RELIGIOUS LAW AND ASKED, “WHERE IS
THE MESSIAH SUPPOSED TO BE
BORN?”



5 “IN BETHLEHEM IN JUDEA,” THEY SAID,
“FOR THIS IS WHAT THE PROPHET WROTE:

6 ‘AND YOU, O BETHLEHEM IN THE LAND OF
JUDAH, ARE NOT LEAST AMONG THE
RULING CITIES OF JUDAH, FOR A RULER
WILL COME FROM YOU WHO WILL BE THE
SHEPHERD FOR MY PEOPLE ISRAEL.’

7 THEN HEROD CALLED FOR A
PRIVATE MEETING WITH THE
WISE MEN, AND HE LEARNED
FROM THEM THE TIME WHEN
THE STAR FIRST APPEARED.

8 THEN HE TOLD THEM, “GO TO BETHLEHEM AND SEARCH CAREFULLY FOR THE CHILD. AND WHEN YOU FIND HIM, COME BACK AND TELL ME SO THAT I CAN GO AND WORSHIP HIM, TOO!”

9 AFTER THIS INTERVIEW THE WISE
MEN WENT THEIR WAY. AND THE STAR
THEY HAD SEEN IN THE EAST GUIDED
THEM TO BETHLEHEM. IT WENT AHEAD
OF THEM AND STOPPED OVER THE
PLACE WHERE THE CHILD WAS.

10 WHEN THEY SAW THE STAR, THEY
WERE FILLED WITH JOY!

11 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.

¹² 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. THE ESCAPE TO EGYPT

13 AFTER THE WISE MEN WERE GONE,
AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO
JOSEPH IN A DREAM. "GET UP! FLEE TO
EGYPT WITH THE CHILD AND HIS
MOTHER," THE ANGEL SAID. "STAY
THERE UNTIL I TELL YOU TO RETURN,
BECAUSE HEROD IS GOING TO SEARCH
FOR THE CHILD TO KILL HIM."

14 THAT NIGHT JOSEPH LEFT FOR
EGYPT WITH THE CHILD AND MARY, HIS
MOTHER

15 AND THEY STAYED THERE UNTIL
HEROD'S DEATH. THIS FULFILLED WHAT
THE LORD HAD SPOKEN THROUGH THE
PROPHET: "I CALLED MY SON OUT OF
EGYPT."

¹⁶ HEROD WAS FURIOUS WHEN HE REALIZED THAT THE WISE MEN HAD OUTWITTED HIM. HE SENT SOLDIERS TO KILL ALL THE BOYS IN AND AROUND BETHLEHEM WHO WERE TWO YEARS OLD AND UNDER, BASED ON THE WISE MEN'S REPORT OF THE STAR'S FIRST APPEARANCE.

17 HEROD'S BRUTAL ACTION
FULFILLED WHAT GOD HAD
SPOKEN THROUGH THE PROPHET
JEREMIAH:

