



# Divine Guidance

**“Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him” (Matthew 2:2).**

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“Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. 3 When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, 6 And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. 7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. 9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. 11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh. 12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way” (Matthew 2:1-12).

God still guide His people today through various means. “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighted in his way” (Psalm 37:23). In this study, we note the following:

- 1) The wisemen were divinely guided by a star to the baby Jesus at the time of His birth. In the same way too, God will guide you to the right place at the right time.
- 2) Divine leading can be confirmed by Biblical records. Herod gathered and questioned the religious people who confirmed that Christ was to be born at Bethlehem, the very place that the star ultimately led the wise men to.
- 3) When the wisemen deviated to the palace of

**“And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way” (Matthew 2:12)**

Herod, the star stopped leading them, but when they left Herod's palace, the star re-appeared and led them to Bethlehem (vs 9-10). When a person stops following God's star, and start going by his own understanding, s/he withdraws from divine guidance. This is why it is important to “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding” (Proverbs 3:5). Never forget the prophetic declaration “The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you” (2 Chronicles 15:2).

- 4) Divine guidance brought comfort, consolation, joy and fulfilment to the wise men but trouble to Herod. “When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy” (vs 10). There is joy and peace in the path of divine guidance.
- 5) God is not limited to one method of doing things. He guided the wisemen to Jesus through a star, but guided them away from returning to Herod via a dream. A follower of God must remain open and sensitive to God's leading, if s/he is to discern and follow Him.
- 6) “And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way” (vs 12). Prompt obedience is what made this people qualified for divine guidance. God hid Jesus from Herod who wanted to kill him, but reveal Him to the wise men who wanted to worship Him. Your disposition toward God and His leading, will determine God's disposition towards you. God will not waste His time guiding a person who is not interested in following that Guidance, just as He did not waste time speaking to King Saul after back-sliding but readily spoke to King David.