

## Lessons and Insights from the Lives of the Magi

### **Part I: Prophecies & Participants** – Barbara Kopitzke

- Christ would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
- Christ would be born of a virgin (Is 7:14)
- Some hints exist on the timing of Christ's birth, Dan. 9
- The death of children in Ramah (Jer 31:15)
- Actual events – how the prophecy unfolds – is a mystery
- God works out the details – we are privileged to participate
- Elements of God's plans: **Act 17:26; Eph 2:10; Jer 1:5; Psa 139:16; Php 2:13**
- God's time continuum: Heb 1:1-2
  - worlds – eons - Vines definition
  - a continuum gives the idea of connectedness of events and times.
  - fulfilling prophecy unawares
- Wise men, or Magi
  - their place in God's plan
  - obedience
  - purity of heart
  - willingness to participate
- Inside of the fulfillment of these prophecies
  - dreams, visions, natural elements gone supernatural, super natural activity

### **Part II: The Prophecies Unfold** – Kathy Patschke

#### The Journey to True Worship

Matthew 2:1-12 (NKJV)

- v1-2 Magi travel to seek the prophesied King of the Jews
- v3 Herod and all Jerusalem were greatly troubled at this news
- v4-6 Herod knew of this prophesied King for he called Him the Christ
- v7-9 Herod's plot thickens
- v10-12 The search results - great joy and heartfelt worship of the King of Kings
- v13-23 God appearing in dreams to Joseph and more fulfilled prophecy

Are we diligently seeking our Messiah — our Savior?

- the magi traveled...how far?

Are we giving Him the honor (worship) due to Him?

What does it look like to worship this one born King of the Jews?

- David, dancing with great joy for the Lord
- 2 Samuel 6:14-23; Ecclesiastes 3:4; Jeremiah 31:4
- Are you choosing joy?
- Psalm 47:1 (NLT); Psalm 95:1-2; Psalm 98:4-8

What does it take to move us into true worship of our Lord and Savior?

- it is a choice                      — our mindset                      — our attitude
- a matter of the heart              — our focus

(Study references: Enduring Word Commentary on Matthew 2; The Wiersbe Bible Commentary by Warren W. Wiersbe)

### **Part III: Conclusion** – Barbara Kopitzke