

MATTHEW 2 vs 11

11 And when they came into the house / remember: this is that exotic group that had come from the East to Jerusalem. Apparently, they hadn't seen the star of late... and turned their caravan towards Jerusalem... thinking that's the capitol city of: this One born King of the Jews.



Matthew Henry's comments from the early 1700s are worth sharing. Their question is: Where is He who is born King of the Jews? They do not ask whether there was such a One born. And to this question, they doubted not but to have a ready answer; and to find all Jerusalem worshipping at the feet of this new King. But they come door to door with this question, and no one can give them any information. And Matthew Henry makes a side comment: There is more gross ignorance in the world, and in the church too, than we are aware of.

He continues: However, they pursue the inquiry: Where is He who is born King of the Jews? Are they asked: Why do they make this inquiry? It is because they have seen His star in the East. Are they asked: What business have you with Him who is King of the Jews? They have their ready answer: We have come to worship Him. They conclude: in the process of time, He will be their King too; therefore, they want to gain the favor of Him, and those about Him -- weren't they surprised! But now they know where to look; and now they have come to Bethlehem. And isn't it interesting that not one person from the court, the church or the city... out of a sense of conscience, civility or curiosity... even followed them – Matthew Henry.

Matthew writes...

And when they came into the house, they saw the young Child / 9 times in a handful of verses, the **young Child** is in focus. Isn't it excessive? I mean Matthew, how many times do you need to mention the **young Child**? Obviously, a lesson is being driven home here! Let's see if we can figure it out.

And when they came into the house, they saw the young Child. / Got it! And Matthew adds, almost like an afterthought...**with Mary** / not with Mary mother full of it, and hocus pocus, claptrap... stuff! You know when Mary responded to the angel who appeared to her, she said: [My spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has regarded the low estate of His handmaiden... and He has done great things to me; holy is His Name](#) – [Luke 1](#). Wow!! That woman knew she needed a Savior, and she lets us know her Savior was not found in Rome. Luke tells us, more women... just like her were coming. God's **handmaidens** who also know **great things** -- [Acts 2](#). One last thing about this dear woman, the only other advice recorded in the Bible that she gave to others is very wise; found in: [John 2](#). **Whatever He says to you, do it.** Whatever else is attributed to that woman... wasn't found worthy of finding its way into the scriptures.

And when they came into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary / oh yeah! **his mother** ...and I bet she is a very nice lady...

and / these people from the East, **fell down, and worshiped Him** / **not**: them, not her.

MATTHEW 2 vs 11

Matthew continues...

and when they had opened their treasures / when they had unpacked their treasure chests,

they presented to Him / **not** to them,

gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh. / **Gold**, the gift of royalty; **frankincense**, the gift of incense to the Divinity; **myrrh**, the gift of sorrow and sadness... anticipating His death.

And all these stories are highly compressed. How long they were there... we do not know. What we do know is... as Professor Edersheim of Oxford University said, This is not how we tell fabulous fables.

¹² **And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way** / they withdrew and went their way.

¹³ **And when they departed behold** / when they withdrew; pay attention,

the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream / literally, the angel of the Lord **shined** to Joseph in a dream.

Here, we see God is not a boastful braggart. He's confident about who He is. And apparently Joseph is unaware of the danger the Child is in. So, this heavenly visitor appears...

to Joseph in a dream, saying,

Arise, and take the young Child / oh! Notice the order of importance...

and His mother and flee to Egypt / and it's sort of funny... It's like, what's her name?

and you be there until I bring you word, for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him / stay there and don't move until I tell you, Herod wasn't interested in anyone else; and probably hearing that... Joseph was quick to obey. He knew the meaning of: urgency!

¹⁴ **When he arose he took the young Child** / when Joseph rose up; he probably grabbed the Child... and headed out the door!

Oh! and His mother / uh? What's her name?! **by night.**

It seems as if they moved that night. Now some people in the church can't move that fast; they need a committee meeting. But Joseph knows: when God is talking... **MOVE!** He wasn't going to argue with the Lord saying, If you want this Child to be the Savior of the world... You better provide us with at least a camel or two! **NO!** Joseph got up and obeyed and took the young Child and they...oh! And His mother also!

MATTHEW 2 vs 11

and they departed... to Egypt:

15 And they were there until the death of Herod: that it be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet / the prophet Hosea saying,

Out of Egypt I called My son.

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked by the wise men, was exceeding wrath / he was pissed off! History records he was a sociopath... barbarous, brutal; he already murdered 2 of his sons; he was a total freak,

and he sent forth, and killed all the children who were in Bethlehem / roman tradition says 14,000 were killed, it wasn't; but if only 14 children, they were the first martyrs in the army of this newborn King.

and he slew all the children who were in Bethlehem, and in all its coasts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.

And by the way, Herod even murdered a third son of his during this time. It makes you wonder: Was this 70-year-old politician afraid of those two-year-olds? Augustus Caesar is reported to have said: It is better to be Herod's pig... than Herod's son. But enough said of that politician... he's dead.

17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

18 In Rama there was a voice heard, weeping, and great mourning; Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they were not.

This is where Israel's wife Rachel died. This is where king David was born. Bethlehem was a blessed town.

19 But when Herod was dead behold / we know this date was around 4BC, so pay attention,

an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph / who was still **in Egypt,**

20 Saying, Arise, and take the young Child / oh! and His mother, and go to the land of Israel: for they are dead who sought the young Child's life.

21 And he arose, and took the young Child... and...? / did you get it? You're right! **His mother /** what's her name?! Matthew, inspired by the Holy Spirit didn't write her name, except once... respectfully,

and entered the land of Israel.

22 But when he heard that Archelaus / another Edomite, **reigned in Judaea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there:**

MATTHEW 2 vs 11

KJV-lite™ VERSES

www.ilibros.net/KJV-lite.html

and being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee / and isn't it interesting how God provides? With Galilee, 100 miles north of Jerusalem; and Bethlehem of Judaea south of Jerusalem... there was Samaria in-between; a region avoided by the Jewish people who rarely traveled more than 20 or 25 miles from their home in those days.

Matthew writes...

²³ **And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth** / Joseph and family moved north to a small town:

that it be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He will be called a Nazarene / now, **Jesus was not a Nazarite**...and in the Hebrew Bible, this word is: **nazar**... meaning: **branch**. The prophet wrote: And there will come forth a rod from the stem of Jesse, and a **Branch** will grow from his roots: and the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding. And He will be a fresh scent -- **Isaiah 11**; **nazar** is the root of the name: Nazareth.

And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He will be called: **Nazar / the Branch.**