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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 worshiping 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...



"进了房子,/记住:这是一个来自东方前往耶路撒冷的异国团体。显然,他们没有看到最近的星…,并把他们的商队转向耶路撒冷…,认为那是首都:这个将要诞生的犹太人的王。

马修·亨利 18 世纪早期的评论值得分享。他们的问题是:那个生下来就是犹太人之王

的人在哪里?他们没有问是否有这样一个人出生。 对于这个问题,他们并不怀疑,只希望有现成 的答案;整个耶路撒冷都在这位新王的脚下敬拜。

但是他们带着这个问题挨家挨户地敲门,没有 人能给他们任何信息。马太·亨利在旁边评论: 世界上,还有教会里的无知超出我们的想象。

他继续说:然而,他们追问:那生下来作犹太人之 王的在哪里?他们会问:为什么要问这个问题?那 是因为他们在东方看到了他的那颗星。问他们 说:"你与犹太人的王有什么事?"

他们有现成的答案:我们来是要拜他。他们的结论是:随着时间的推移,他也将成为他们的王;因此,他们想要得到他和他周围的人的青睐——难道他们不感到惊讶吗?

但现在他们知道去哪里找;现在他们已经到了伯利恒。有趣的是,没有一个来自法庭、教堂或城市的人…出于良知、文明或好奇…甚至跟随他们——马太·亨利。

马太写到…

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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 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.

看见小孩子和他母亲马利亚,就俯伏拜那小孩子,揭开宝盒,拿黄金,乳香,没药为礼物献给他。 / 在经文中有 9 次都是以这个婴孩为焦点。会不会太多了? 我的意思是马太,你要提多少次这个婴孩?显然,这是一个教训!我们看看能不能算出来。

看见小孩子/知道了,马太补充道,好像是之后才想到的... 和他母亲马利亚/别跟马利亚瞎扯,等等!马利亚回答向她显现的天使说:"我的灵以神我的救主为乐,因他看顾他使女的卑微……他又在我身上行了大事。他的名为圣——路加福音 1 章。哇!!那个女人知道她需要一位救主,她告诉我们她的救主不在罗马。路加告诉我们,更多像她一样的女人会来。神的使女知道有大事发生——使徒行传第 2 章。关于这个可爱女人的最后一件事,圣经中记载的她给别人的唯一的忠告是非常明智的;约翰福音 2 章:他让你做什么,你就做什么。无论关于那个女人的其他信息,都不值得写进圣经里。

进了房子,看见小孩子和他母亲马利亚/ 她一定是一个好女人

就俯伏拜那小孩子 / 不是他们,也不是她

马太写道:

揭开宝盒,/他们打开放宝物的盒子

拿黄金/皇室礼物**,乳香**/献给神的馨香**,没药**/悲伤的礼物······预言他的死,**为礼物献给他**/不是他们。

And all these stories are highly compressed. How long they were there... we do not know. What we do know

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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.

所有这些故事都被高度压缩了。他们在那里呆了 多久,我们不知道。我们所知道的是,正如牛津 大学的埃德斯海姆教授所说,这不是我们讲神话 的方式。

12 博士因为在梦中被主指示,不要回去见希律, 就从别的路回本地去了。/他们回去了。

18 他们去后,/当他们回去,注意了,

有主的使者向约瑟梦中显现,/字面的意思是主的天使在约瑟的梦里<mark>闪现</mark>。

在这里,我们看到上帝不是一个爱自夸的人。 他对自己很有信心。显然约瑟没有意识到孩子 所处的危险。所以,这个天上的使者出现了…

说,

起来,带着小孩子同他母亲,/注意这个顺序的 重要性

逃往埃及,/有点意思,她的名字叫什么?

住在那里,等我吩咐你。因为希律必寻找小孩子要除灭他。/呆在那里别动,直到我告诉你,希律对任何人都不感兴趣;也许听到这话,约瑟很快就服从了。他知道是"紧急!"

14 约瑟就起来,夜间带着小孩子/约瑟就起来了。 他可能抱起孩子,然后走出门去了!

和他母亲/额?她的名字是什么?

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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!

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 wroth / 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,

那天晚上他们好像搬走了。教堂里的一些人没有那么快的速度;他们需要开一个委员会会议。但是约瑟知道:当神说话的时候……行动!他不会和主争论说:如果你想让这个孩子成为世界的救主,你最好给我们至少一两只骆驼!不!约瑟就起来,照他的话去做,把带孩子走。还有他的母亲!

往埃及去:

15 住在那里, 直到希律死了。这是要应验主借先知所说的话, /先知何西阿书, 说,

我从埃及召出我的儿子来。

16 **希律见自己被博士愚弄,就大大发怒,**/他真的发怒了!历史记载希律王是一位残忍的暴君;他已经杀了自己两个儿子;他真的是一个怪物。

差人将伯利恒城里,并四境所有的男孩,/罗马传统说有一万四千男童被杀;但是有 14 个男孩是这位刚刚诞生的王的殉道者。

照着他向博士仔细查问的时候,凡两岁以里的, 都杀尽了。

顺便说一下,那时希律又杀了他第三个儿子。 这让你想知道:这个 70 岁的政治家会害怕那些两 岁的孩子吗?据说奥古斯都·恺撒曾说过:做希律 的猪,胜过做希律的儿子。但关于那个政治家 说得够多了……他已经死了。

17 这就应了先知耶利米的话,说,

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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:

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:

18在拉玛听见号啕大哭的声音,

是拉结哭她儿女,不肯受安慰,因为他们都不在了。

以色列的妻子拉结就死在这里。这里是大卫王出生的地方。伯利恒是一个受祝福的城镇。

19 **希律死了以后**,/我们知道时间是大概公元 4 年,注意了

有主的使者,在埃及向约瑟/还在埃及,**梦中显** 现,说,

- ²⁰ 起来,带着小孩子和他母亲往以色列地去。 因为要害小孩子性命的人已经死了。
- ²¹ 约瑟就起来,把小孩子和/看到了吗? 你是猜对了! 他母亲/她叫什么名字?!"马太,受圣灵的感动,没有写下她的名字,只有一次… 带到以色列地去。
- ²² 只因听见亚基老/另一个以东人,接着他父亲 希律作了犹太王,就怕往那里去。

又在梦中被主指示,便往加利利境内去了。/ 主的带领很有趣,不是吗?加利利在耶路撒冷以 北 100 英里;耶路撒冷以南的犹太伯利恒,中间 有撒玛利亚;那个时候,犹太人很少到离家 20 或 25 英里以外的地方去。

马太写道……

²³ **到了一座城,名叫拿撒勒,/**约瑟和他的家人搬到了北方的一个小镇。

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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.

就住在那里。这是要应验先知所说,他将称为 拿撒勒人的话了。/耶稣不是拿细耳人,在希伯 来圣经里,这个词是拿细耳,意思是分支。先 知曾写过:"从耶西的本必生出一根杖,从他的根必 长出一根枝子;耶和华的灵,就是使他有智慧和聪明的 灵,必安在他身上。"他必成为一股馨香。——以 赛亚书 11 章;拿撒勒这个名字的词根是拿撒勒。

到了一座城,名叫拿撒勒,就住在那里。这是 要应验先知所说,他将称为<mark>拿撒勒人</mark>/分支的话 了。/