

Matthew 2 : 1-12—Memory Verses, 11, 12.

Golden Text—And thou shalt call his name Jesus : for he shall save his people from their sins.—Matthew 1 : 21.



1 Now when Je'sus was born in Beth'lehem of Judæ'a in the days of Her'od the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jeru'salem,

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 Her'od the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jeru'salem 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 Beth'lehem of Judæ'a : for thus it is written by the prophet,

6 And thou Beth'lehem, *in the land of Ju'da*, art not the least among the princes of Ju'da : for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Is'rael.

7 Then Her'od, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8 And he sent them to Beth'lehem, 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 Ma'ry 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 Her'od, they departed into their own country another way.

THE LESSON RETOLD

At the time when God had promised that Jesus should be born, there came to Jerusalem a company of men from some far-off Eastern country, who asked the people, saying, "Where is He that is to be born King of the Jews ? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.

God had sent a star that shone over the land where these Wise Men lived, so that they might know that Jesus was born, and they had come to Jerusalem seeking Him. But when they reached there, they could not find Jesus and so they asked the people where they might find Him.

Herod, who was king in Jerusalem, heard what these men were seeking, and was troubled because they called Jesus a King. He

was afraid that the Child which was born might some day be made king over Judea instead of himself ; so he also wanted to know where Jesus was, and gathered together many learned men, and asked them to tell him where the Christ should be born. They answered, "In the city of Bethlehem ; for so the prophet Micah has written."

Then Herod called the Wise Men to him and said, "Go and look diligently for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I may come and worship Him also." But he said this only because he wanted to find Jesus and put Him to death.

Then the Wise Men left Jerusalem, and went towards Bethlehem ; and as they went, the star which they had seen in their own