

He Has Come!

The Lord Jesus was not born in obscurity. That night in Bethlehem was proclaimed throughout the night sky. The shepherds declared that the skies shown brighter than the day! The brightness was such and the glory of the message caused the shepherds to proclaim the angel's words: *"Messiah and Savior both have come! And they are One!"* Their report went throughout Judea and beyond. The priests from Jerusalem sent scribes to find out what had happened. Letters were sent to the Sanhedrin informing them of the child's birth, supposedly born of a virgin. Within a matter of days everyone had heard the reports. Messiah was destined to reign over the entire world. The heathen would be his inheritance. The uttermost parts of the earth would be his possession. And he would break with a rod of iron the rule of Rome and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel! Can this child be the One? And how can he be Savior as well?

The Magi of the Eastern kingdoms also saw the spectacle in the heavens: comets, and alignments, and eclipses. It was just like their teacher Daniel had predicted hundreds of years prior to the event: Their hearts were so stirred that they convinced all of their kings and kingdoms to send them to worship the newborn King, to make alliances with Him, to preserve the continuance of the empires of the East under His Reign and Lordship. By the time the Magi arrived in Jerusalem, perhaps 2 years later, it had already become a proverb with the children of Bethlehem and Jerusalem that the Jews had a new king, that neither Caesar nor Herod would reign any more, that they would have to pay no more taxes! Their arrival did not help the matter at all! Herod sent them to Bethlehem unaware of the newborn King. Unaware?

"When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was." (Matthew 2:9)

Herod told them that the Savior was to be born in Bethlehem. But the star revealed He was no longer there. So they chose to follow the star rather than the words of Herod! And it led them to the Savior, now abiding in Nazareth of the Galilee. They saw the fulfillment of prophecy! They beheld the Holy One, and fell down and worshiped!

May this Christmas Day be filled with joy and expectation as we worship our King and Lord together! And may the Holy Spirit lead and guide you into His very presence! Merry Christmas to **you!**