

## A tale of two Kings. Matt. 2:1-12

### Who is in charge matters. Vv. 1-2

*Matthew 2: Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."*

### The King on the throne – Herod the Great

#### Background

#### Fearful v. 3

*Matthew 2: <sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."<sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;*

#### Lying 2:8, 12

*Matthew 2: <sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ..... <sup>12</sup> And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.*

#### Murderous v. 16

*Matthew 2: <sup>16</sup> Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.*

#### Role/authority limited in place and time 2:13, 15

*Matthew 2: <sup>13</sup> Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."<sup>14</sup> And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."*

*Matthew 2: <sup>19</sup> But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup> saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead."*

*Matthew 2: <sup>22</sup> But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.*

A type, with elements in us all

### **The Other King - Jesus**

#### **A baby v. 11**

*Matthew 2: <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.*

#### **The born King of promise [Micah 5:2, 4; 2 Sam. 5:2]**

*Matthew 2: <sup>2</sup> saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."*

*Matthew 2: <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:*

*<sup>6</sup> "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel. "'*

Truthful Matt. 5:33-37, 24:35 John 18:37

*Matthew 24: <sup>35</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.*

*John 18: <sup>37</sup> Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."*

Loving and life giving [Luke 23:34, Matt. 20:28, 27:29, 37]

*Luke 23:*<sup>34</sup> *And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.*

*Matthew 20:*<sup>28</sup> *even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

*Matthew 27:*<sup>29</sup> *and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on his head and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him, they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!"....<sup>37</sup> And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."*

### **The King without limit**

The star – [cf. the eclipse 27:45]

*Matthew 2:*<sup>9</sup> *After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.<sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.<sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.*

v. 11 – the worship of the magi [Psalm 2:8]

*"Ask of me and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession."* Ps. 2:8

Resurrection

All authority

*Matthew 28:*<sup>18</sup> *And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

### **Which King ...?**

A King to worship

A King to make known.