

MATTHEW Chapter 2

Study Questions

BOTTOM LINE: God protects and cares for His own

THINK ABOUT IT: Even though those who love Jesus may be persecuted, true protection is found in Him.

READ MATTHEW 2:1-8

1. How and why were reactions different for those who became curious or concerned about the news of Christ's birth?

a. The Magi _____

b. King Herod _____

c. The Jewish Priests and Teachers of the Law _____

2. How are people today like those above with curiosity, concerns & reactions about God's word & Jesus?

3. Read Micah 5:2

a. How does this Old Testament prophecy tell the truth about the *Deity of Jesus*?

b. How does this Old Testament prophecy tell the truth about the *Humanity of Jesus*?

c. How does this Old Testament prophecy tell the truth about the *Kingship of Jesus*?

READ MATTHEW 2:9-18

1. Read Ruth 4:11-13, 18-22 and 1 Samuel 16:1-13

a. How does the village of Bethlehem connect Jesus with King David, his great ancestor?

b. Using a reference Bible, list the Old Testament verses about "Egypt and Bethlehem" quoted in Matthew 2:1-18.

c. How did Herod's hostility toward Jesus Christ, as stated in Matthew 2:6, show how Herod would feel about Jesus throughout his Life?

2. Read 1 Peter 2 & 4 to see how those who closely follow Jesus can expect the same kind of abuse Jesus did and share its importance to your faith.

3. How do the Magi (wise men from the east) teach you about true worship & how did God reward them?

READ MATTHEW 2:19-23

1. For what reason did Joseph move his family to Egypt and what can you learn from this?
2. Why did Joseph not return to Judea with his family?
3. Read John 1:43-46 (as a fulfillment of Micah 5:2)
 - a. Why do you think Nathanael questioned Jesus' statement that he was the Messiah?
 - b. How might it encourage you to remember that Jesus came from a "despised" or very unpopular place?
4. Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 and explain how God's wisdom is very different from the way people normally think.

REVIEW MATTHEW 2 WITH A READING OF PSALM 91

1. In what ways does this Psalm make you think of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (in Matthew 2)?
2. Which verses from Psalm 91 help you learn to trust the Lord's promises and protection?
3. What can you learn about obedience to the word of God from these readings?
4. How have you learned about God's care for His people, and how may we pray together to do what we have learned?