



**Title:** Wise men still seek Jesus  
**Pastor:** Theo van Houten  
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**Matthew 2:1-3** <sup>1</sup> 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." <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, **he was troubled**, and all Jerusalem with him;

**Matthew 2:4-6** <sup>4</sup> and **assembling** all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he **inquired** of them where the Christ was to be born. <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.'"

**Matthew 2:7-9** <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>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.

**Matthew 2:10-12** <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. <sup>12</sup> And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

**2 Chronicles 1:7** In that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, "**Ask what I shall give you.**"

**2 Chronicles 1:11-12** <sup>11</sup> God answered Solomon, "**Because this was in your heart**, and you have **not asked for possessions, wealth, honour**, ..., and have not even asked for long life, **but have asked for wisdom and knowledge** for yourself ..., <sup>12</sup> **wisdom and knowledge are granted to you**. I will also give you riches, possessions, and honour,

**James 1:5** If any of you **lacks wisdom**, let him ask God, who **gives generously** to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

**Ephesians 1:17** That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give you the Spirit of wisdom** and of **revelation** in the **knowledge** of him,

**Proverbs 2:1-6** <sup>1</sup> My son, if you **receive my words** and treasure up my **commandments** with you, <sup>2</sup> making your ear **attentive to wisdom** and inclining your heart to **understanding**; <sup>3</sup> yes, **if you call out for insight** and raise your voice for **understanding**, <sup>4</sup> **if you seek** it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, <sup>5</sup> **then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.** <sup>6</sup> **For the LORD gives wisdom**; from his mouth come **knowledge** and **understanding**;

**Deuteronomy 4:5-6** <sup>5</sup> See, I have taught you statutes and rules, as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do them in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>6</sup> **Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples**, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.'

**2 Chronicles 7:14** If my people who are called by my name **humble** themselves, and **pray** and **seek my face** and **turn from** their wicked ways, **then** I will **hear** from heaven and will **forgive** their sin and **heal** their land.

**Ecclesiastes 1:12-14, 16-18** <sup>12</sup> I, the **Preacher** have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> And I **applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven**. It is an **unhappy business** that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> **I have seen everything** that is done under the sun, and behold, **all is vanity** and a **striving after wind**. <sup>16</sup> **I said in my heart**, "I have **acquired great wisdom**, and my heart has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge." <sup>17</sup> And I **applied my heart to know wisdom** and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a striving after wind. <sup>18</sup> **For in much wisdom is much displeasure**, and he who increases knowledge increases **sorrow**.

**1 Corinthians 1:21-29** <sup>21</sup> For since, **in the wisdom of God**, the world did not know God through wisdom, it **pleased God** through the folly of what **we preach to save those who believe**. <sup>22</sup> For Jews **demand signs** and Greeks **seek wisdom**, <sup>23</sup> but **we preach Christ crucified**, a **stumbling block** to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God**. <sup>25</sup> For the **foolishness of God is wiser** than men, and the **weakness of God is stronger** than men. <sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not **many of you were wise according to worldly standards**, not many were **powerful**, not many were of **noble birth**. <sup>27</sup> **But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise**; God chose what is **weak** in the world to shame the **strong**; <sup>28</sup> **God chose what is low and despised in the world**, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that **no human being might boast in the presence of God**.

**Jeremiah 9:23-24** <sup>23</sup> Thus says the LORD: "Let not the **wise man boast** in his wisdom, let not the **mighty** man boast in his might, let not the **rich** man boast in his riches, <sup>24</sup> but let him who boasts **boast in this**, that he **understands and knows me**, that **I am the LORD** who practices steadfast **love, justice, and righteousness** in the earth. For **in these things I delight**, declares the LORD."

**Isaiah 11:2** And the **Spirit of the LORD** shall rest upon him, the **Spirit of wisdom** and **understanding**, the Spirit of **counsel** and **might**, the Spirit of **knowledge** and the **fear of the LORD**.

**Psalm 105:3-4** <sup>3</sup> Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of **those who seek the LORD** rejoice!

<sup>4</sup> **Seek the LORD** and his strength; **seek his presence continually!**

**Matthew 7:7-8** <sup>7</sup> **Ask**, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; **knock**, and it will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who **asks receive**, and the one who **seeks finds**, and to the one who **knocks it will be opened**.

**Matthew 6:33-34** <sup>33</sup> **But seek first the kingdom of God** and his righteousness, and **all these things** will be **added** to you. <sup>34</sup> "Therefore do not be **anxious** about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.