

To Be a Disciple

08/04/2024

Unit I: The Calling of the Disciple and the One Who Calls (Matthew 1:1-4:22)

Lesson 301: Magi Worship the Promised Messiah

Matthew 1:18-2:12

INTRODUCTION

A. SEVEN FULFILLMENTS OF OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY

1. **Isaiah 7:14** and **Matthew 1:23** (Virgin and Immanuel)
2. **Micah 5:2** and **Matthew 2:6** (Bethlehem)
3. **Hosea 11:1** and **Matthew 2:15** (Flight to Egypt)
4. **Jeremiah 31:15** and **Matthew 2:16-18** (Slaughter of Innocents)
5. **Isaiah 11:1** and **Matthew 2:23** (Branch / Nazarene)
6. **Isaiah 40:3** and **Matthew 3:1-3** (John the Baptist)
7. **Isaiah 9:1-2** and **Matthew 4:15-16** (Messianic Light)

B. Virgin and Immanuel (Matthew 1:23)

1. Hebrew *almāh* can mean means "marriageable young woman"
2. *Septuagint* (Greek translation of Hebrew OT) translates *almāh* as *parthenos* (virgin maid).
3. Hebrew *Emmanuel* - God with Us - first occurs in **Isaiah 8:8-10**
4. See **GENESIS 4:1**
5. *Christ's HUMAN NATURE comes from the Holy Spirit*

I. THE VISIT OF THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2:1-12)

A. Matthew's Point: Arrival of the Wise Men is a MESSIANIC SIGN

1. **ISAIAH 60:3-6**
2. **PSALM 72:10**
3. **NUMBERS 24:17**
4. **STAR**: Probably a conjunction of the planets Saturn and Jupiter in the Constellation of Pisces (the fish - piscatorial).

B. GOLD, FRANKINCENSE AND MYRRH ... symbolic gifts of faith

1. Isaiah 60:6
 2. John 19:38-40
 3. The Cross looms over the Cradle
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the significance of the number [7] of prophecies that Jesus fulfills in Matthew?
2. What is the significance of the ANGEL's activity in Matthew 1:18-25?
3. What is the significance of the name JESUS according to Matthew 1:21?
4. Why is Joseph suspicious of Mary's faithfulness during their betrothal? According to Deuteronomy 22:16-21, what should happen to Mary if she is guilty of adultery? What was Joseph's solution and why?
5. What is the connection between Matthew 1:23 and Matthew 28:20? What is the similarity and why is this important?
6. What does Matthew stress that Jesus was born in Bethlehem?
7. Why did the Wise Men follow a STAR? What was the "star" they followed and why was that "star" so important?
8. Why is the coming of the Wise Men so important? What is the significance of their gifts?
9. What does Matthew mean when he says that ... *all this took place to fulfill what the LORD had spoken by the prophets*?
10. What is Matthew trying to tell us about God's involvement in the history of the world?
11. How can we show our response to what Matthew tells us about the Christ?