



Blessings to make room for

1. Jesus
2. People
3. Signs

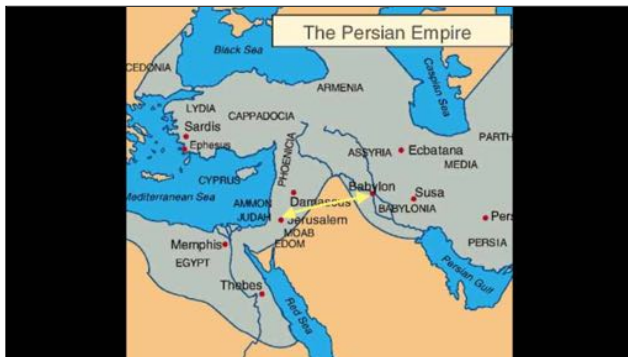
Remain open because God speaks through people and cultures very different from us (Matthew 2:1).

Matthew 2:1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, **Magi from the east** came to Jerusalem, and asked...

Who are the magi?

MAGI:

Priests in Zoroastrianism and the earlier religions of the western Iranians. The earliest known use of the word magi is in the trilingual inscription written by Darius the Great.



**Why do they know about Jewish
messianic prophecy?**

**Illustration - I can't read it if it is
not Christian**

**To see God's sign, you must be looking for it.
(Matthew 2:1-2).**

**Matthew 2:1-2 ...Magi from the east came to
Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has
been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it
rose and have come to worship him."**

PLANETS (Wandering stars):

Jupiter – The planet of Kings

Venus – The star of fertility

Regulus – The royal star, or prince

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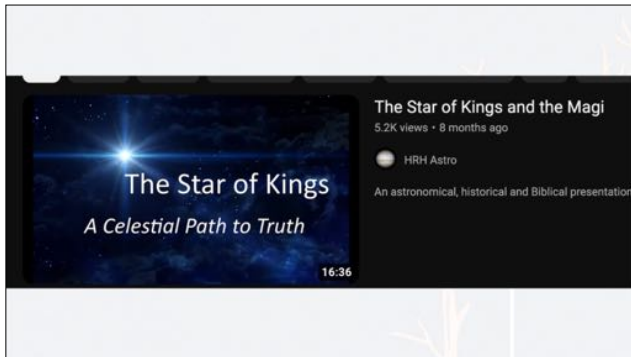
Saturn – The planet of the Jews – derived from the fact that Jews worshipped on the 7th day, which was the planet named for the Roman god Saturnus (Amos 5:26).

²⁶You have lifted up the shrine of your king,
the pedestal of your idols,
the star of your god—
which you made for yourselves.

Amos 5:26 (NIV)

²⁶No, you served your pagan gods—Sakkuth your king god and **Kaiwan** (Saturn) your star god—the images you made for yourselves.

Amos 5:26 (NLT)





Matthew 2:3-6

Why didn't Herod know about the birth?



We see what we want to see, and we hear what we want to hear.

**We bless what we value and blesses us
(Matthew 2:10-11).**

Matthew 2:10-11 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and **they bowed down** and worshiped him. Then they **opened their treasures** and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The signs of what we value shows up in how we view and treat people.
Because how we view and treat people reveals who we are, not who they are.

Sometimes the greatest sign and blessing is God's denial or "No." (Matthew 2:12).

Matthew 2:12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Signs point you toward something and away from something else.

Finding Jesus

1. Look for the signs that point to Jesus
2. Take the action to go where Jesus leads you
3. Excitingly tell others about Jesus with the understanding not everyone wants Him.

ACTION ITEM

- 1) Look and listen for signs that God may be speaking to you.
 - 2) Then asks, what blessings have I missed?
And what blessings can I give?
- After Jesus, most times the greatest blessing we can give, is ourselves.
