

THE RELIGION OF THE MAGI

In our last lesson, we learned that the prophecy of King's Star did not come from the Religion of the Magi, but rather from the prophets to Israel (Gen.49:10; Num.24:17; and Dan.1:17-21).

(Dan.2:27-28a) "Daniel answered before the king and said, 'as for the mystery about which the king has inquired, neither wise men, conjurers, magicians nor diviners are able to declare it to the king. However, **there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries.**'"

We learned also that it was GOD who sent them to Jerusalem, then to Bethlehem and then to the Christ Child to fulfill the truth behind the special King's Star.

(Matt.2:12) "And having been warned **by God** in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way."

This lesson will study four aspects of the Religion of Magi and their worship of Christ as King of the Jews.

1. The King's Star was part of God's fourth day celestial creation of Gen.1:14-19.

This means that it was decreed in the plan of God at the Eternal Life Conference before the creation.

(Eph.1:3-4b) "Blessed be the **God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places **in Christ**, just as He chose us **in Him** before the foundation of the world."

When we read Gen.1:14-19, we discover it has three parts:

- **God said** (Gen.1:14-15)
- **God made** (Gen.1:16)
- **God placed** (Gen.1:17-19).

We are interested in 1 of 3 "**let us**" parts in the **God said** section:

(Gen.1:14-15) "Let them (lights) be **for signs** and **for seasons** and **for days and years.**"

We understand "for seasons, days, and years;" but what about the "signs (oth)?"

2. Divine signs can be interpreted by sight or by faith (2 Cor.5:7).

Sight is perception by the eye or ear or mind – "Things which eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love God." (1 Cor.2:9) (Isa.64:4)

Two people can see or hear the same thing and draw different conclusions because of Cosmos Diabolicus (worldly thinking) or Divine View Point (word of God thinking).

- Matt.2:11 Magi
- Matt.2:16 Herod

(Rom.10:17) "Faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ."

Faith is cycling the word of God through the "heart" (Right Lobe of the Soul) by ministry of The Indwelling Holy Spirit.

(1 Cor.2:5) "That your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God."

(1 Cor.2:7) "But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom, which God predestined **before** the ages to our glory."

(1 Cor.2:10, 13) "For to us God revealed them through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God."

2. Satan uses the sight system to promote Cosmos Diabolicus (devil's schemes) (2 Cor.2:11; 11:3; Eph.6:11).

For example, Satan took the truth of the fourth day of creation and developed it into an ancient religion of astrology and spread it throughout the world (2 Thess.2:8-9; Acts 2:19-21; Luke 21:25).

(Matt.16:1-4) "The Pharisees and Sadducees came up, and testing Jesus, they asked Him to show them a sign from heaven." (Luke 12:54-59)

(Matt.16:3b) "Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of times?"

(Matt.16:4) "And evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign and a sign will not be given it, except the sign of Jonah." (Matt.12:38-40; John 20:30-31)

3. Moses warned the Israelites of this ancient religion in land of Canaan (Deut.18:9-22) [15th century BC]

In this warning, Moses gave a messianic prophecy (Deut.18:15). This was used in association with person and ministry of Jesus Christ.

(John 1:19-25) "The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him," (John 6:14; 7:40) [Jesus Christ, NOT John the Baptist]

The message from God associated with the King's Star and the Magi was that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior of the world, and the King of kings and Lord of lords.

This Christmas message was confirmation of (Gen.49:10) (scepter of Judah), in (Num.24:17) (star of Jacob), and in (Matt.2:1-12). (The King of the Jews)