

Expecting Christmas

Matthew 2:1-12

I. Believe the Word of God



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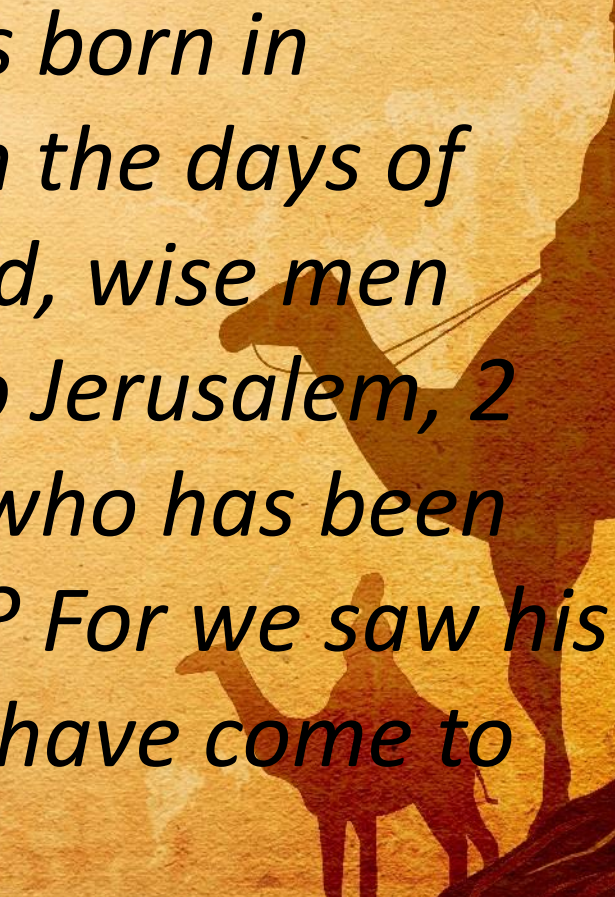
I. Believe the Word of God



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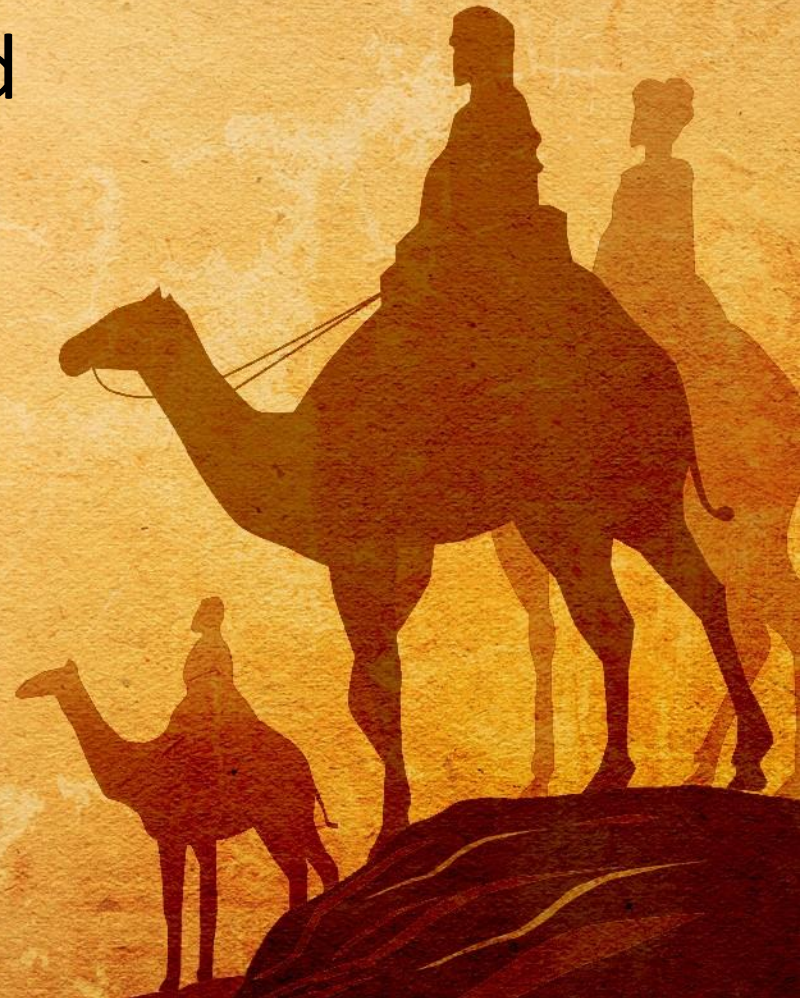
1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

The background of the slide features a warm, golden-yellow gradient. On the right side, there are dark silhouettes of three wise men riding camels. The camels are in profile, facing left. The figures are simple and dark, contrasting with the bright background. The overall mood is serene and historical.

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A star shall come out of Jacob

And a scepter shall rise out of Israel

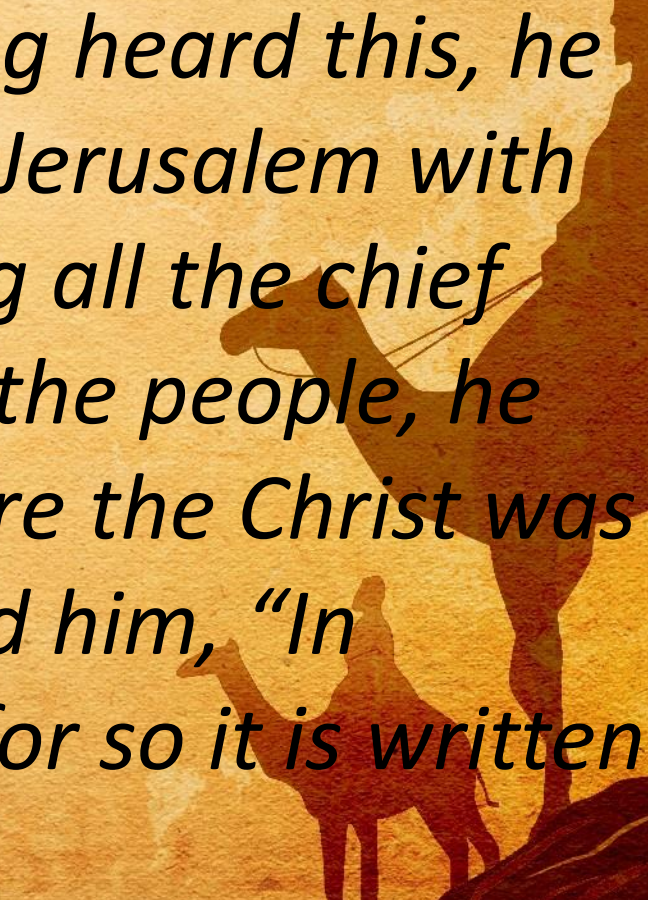
-Numbers 24:17



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3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

The background of the slide features a warm, golden-yellow gradient. In the lower right corner, there are dark silhouettes of three camels and their riders, moving across a dark, rocky terrain. The overall aesthetic is that of a parchment or aged paper background.

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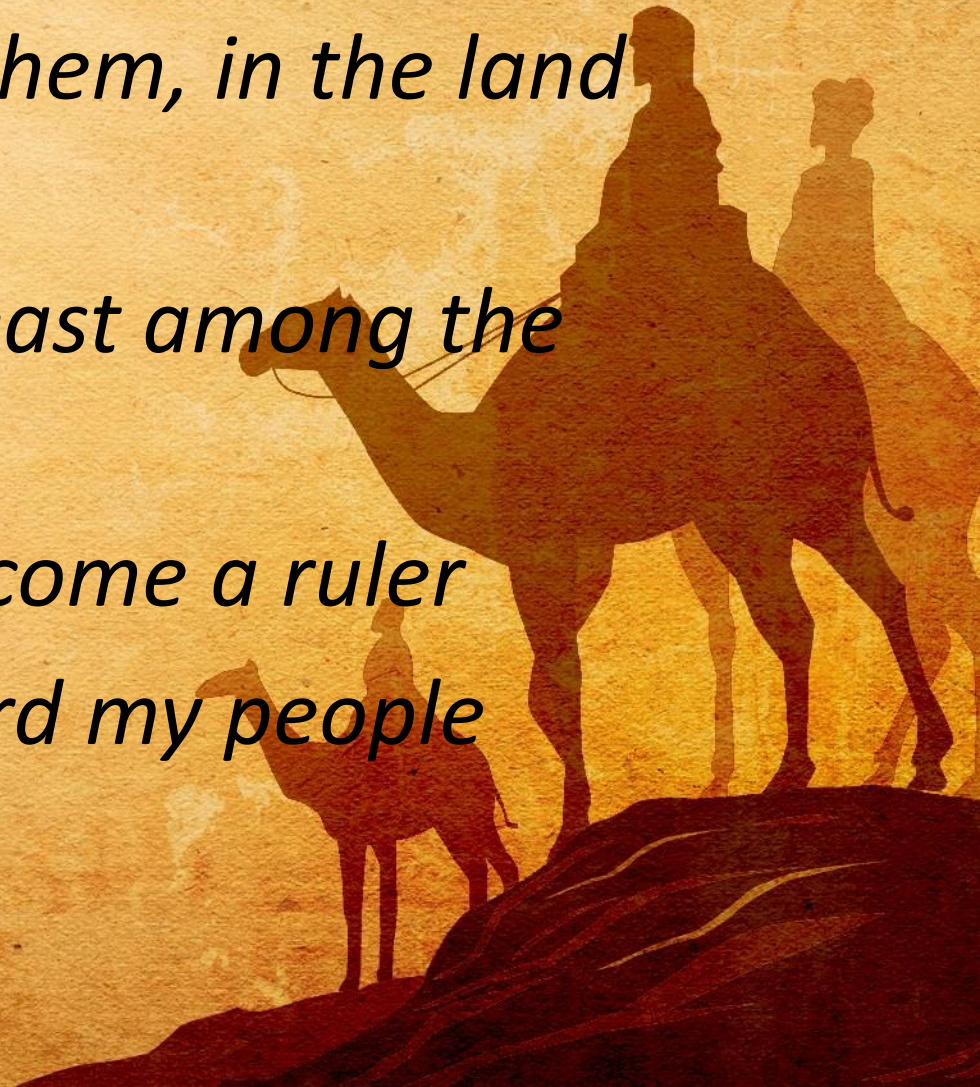
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6 *“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,*

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler

who will shepherd my people Israel.””



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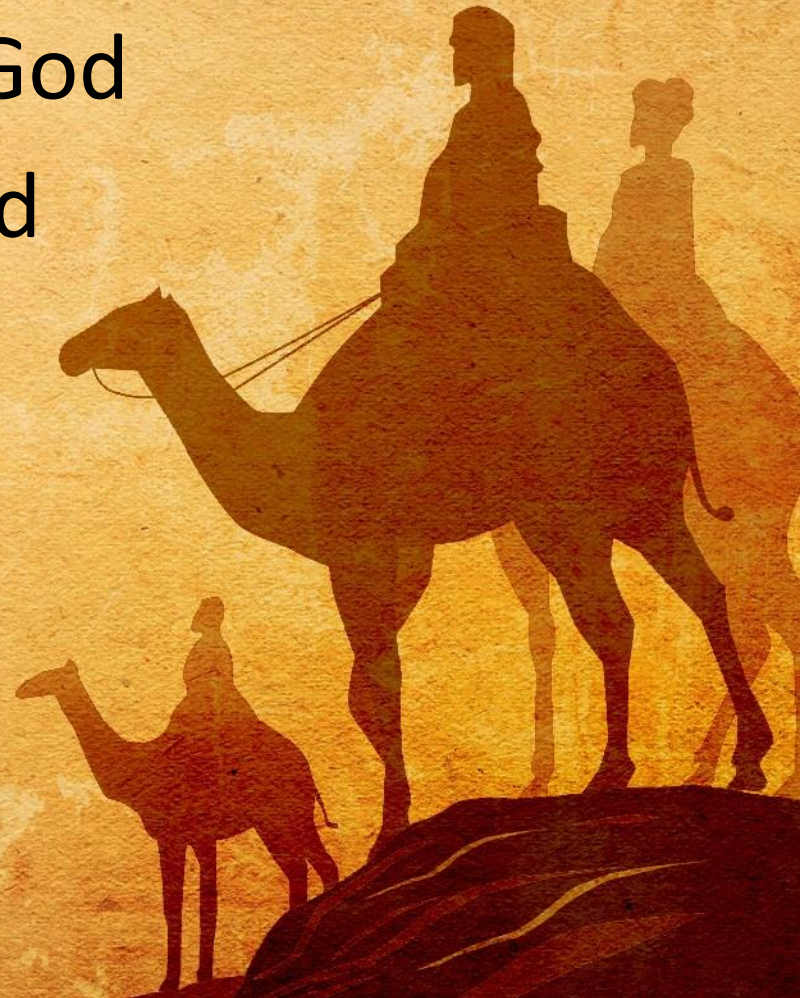
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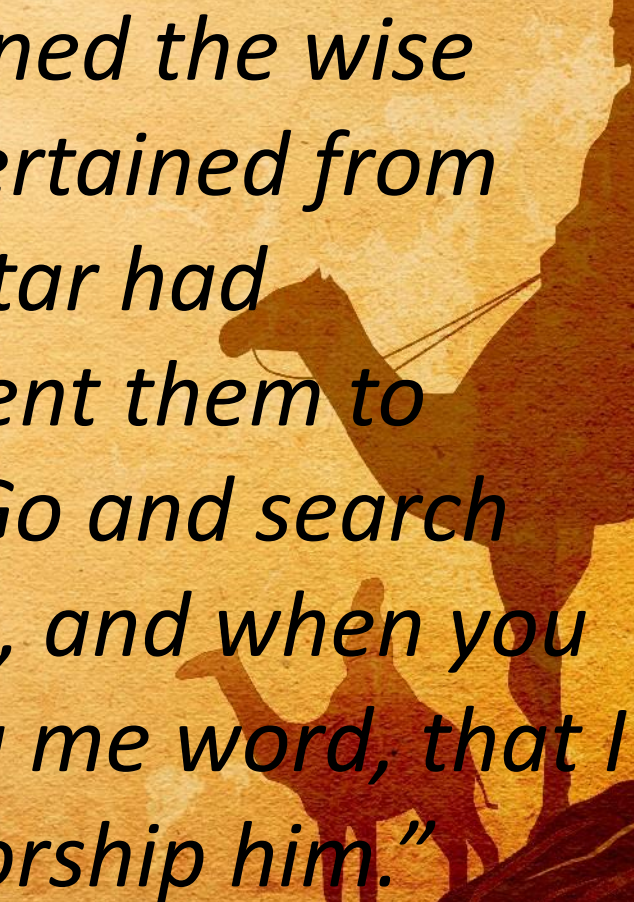
- I. Believe the Word of God
- II. Follow the Will of God



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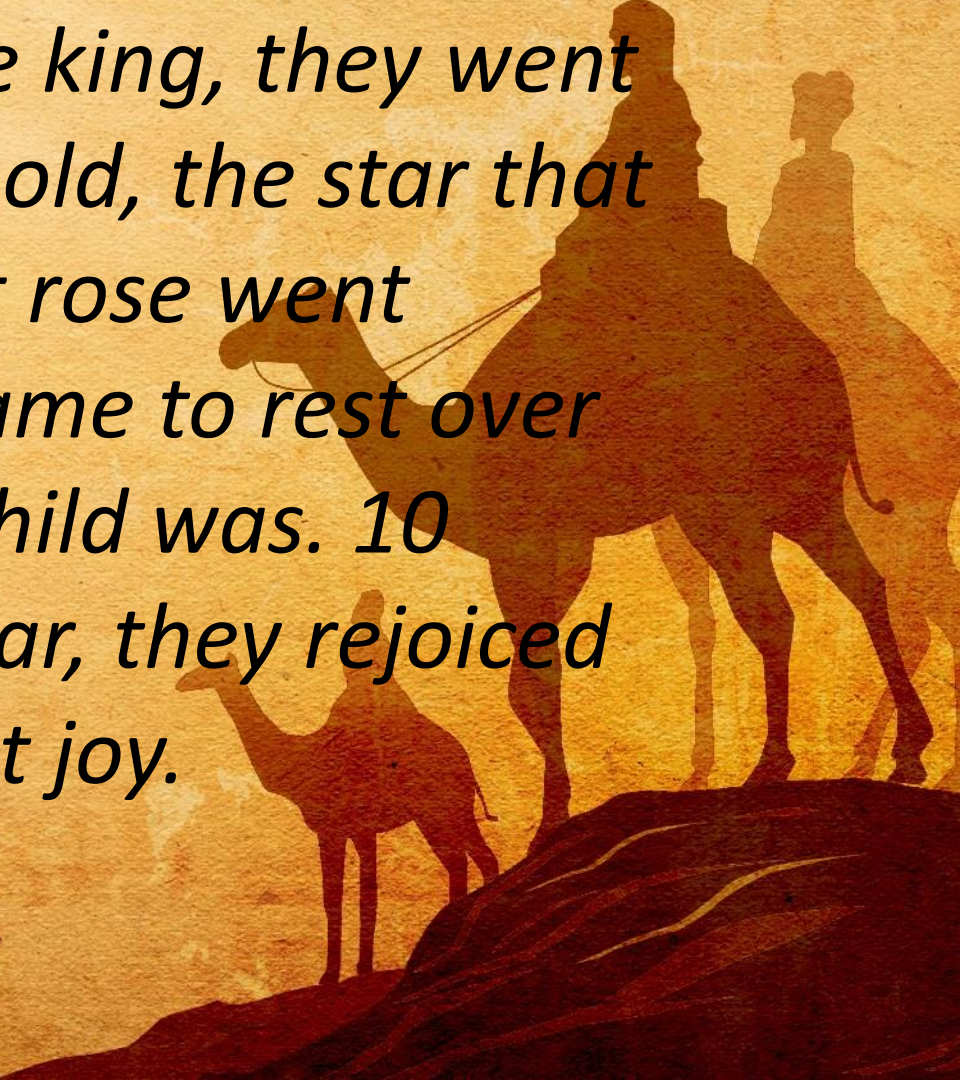
7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."

The background of the slide features a warm, golden-yellow gradient. In the lower right quadrant, there are dark silhouettes of three wise men riding camels. The camels are in profile, facing left, and the riders are seated on their backs. The overall scene is set against a bright, hazy light that suggests a sunrise or sunset, creating a serene and historical atmosphere.

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9 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. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

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- I. Believe the Word of God
- II. Follow the Will of God



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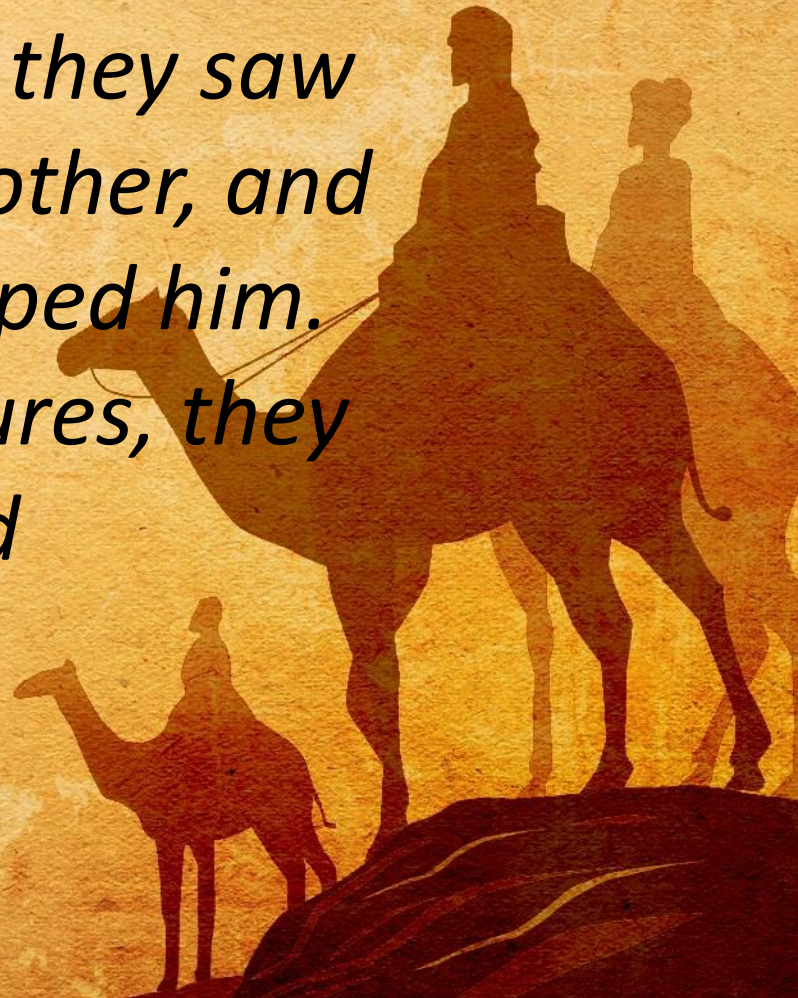
- I. Believe the Word of God
- II. Follow the Will of God
- III. Give the Worship of God



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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.



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- II. Follow the Will of God
- III. Give the Worship of God

