

Introduction: What does Epiphany mean in the Bible? It is the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, and as a result, Jesus physically manifested himself to nations of Gentiles.



Four aspects of Epiphany:

1. The wise men's question (vv. 1-2)

"In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

Numbers 24:17, "A star will come from Jacob, and a scepter will arise from Israel."

2. Herod's trouble (vv. 3-6)

"King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

3. Herod's request (vv. 7-8)

"Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

4. The wise men's worship (v. 11-12)

"On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road."

Concluding Thoughts:

The wise men went to find this child under the star and to worship Him.

Weekly Challenge:

Ask yourself, "What kind of encounter have I had with Jesus?"

Have you worshipped as the wise men did?

Have you sought to destroy Jesus as Herod did?

Have you hardened your heart to what God is doing as the scribes and priests did?