

THE FIRST STAR TREK

December 15, 2013 Matthew 2:1-12 by Bob Branch

MAIN IDEA: God used many things to point people to Jesus, yet some missed him! He is still pointing us to Jesus *today*, because life is in him!

“You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me! Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life.” **John 5:39-40** NLT

1. God is continually seeking to **GET OUR ATTENTION** and shift it to Jesus.

Through **Nature** and the **Stars**

Through **Pagan Astrologers**

Through **Fulfilled Prophecies** spoken long ago.

Does Jesus have your attention?

“... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.” **Heb. 12:1-2**

“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” **Matthew 6:33**

2. His titles are invitations to **ACKNOWLEDGE** who he is, come to **KNOW** him through these titles, and **JOIN** him in his mission.

King of the Jews (v.2)

“Above his head they placed the written charge against him: THIS IS JESUS, THE KING OF THE JEWS.” **Matthew 27:37**

“My kingdom is not *of* this world... my kingdom is from another place.” **John 18:36**

Messiah (v.4)

“Once, on being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, “The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, ‘Here it is,’ or ‘There it is,’ because the kingdom of God is in your midst.” **Luke 17:20-21**

Ruler-Leader (v.6)

Shepherd (v.6)

“The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing... He makes me, leads me, refreshes my soul; guides me, is with me, comforts me, prepare a table, anoints me...” **Psalms 23**

3. Jesus tends to make people **MAD** or **GLAD**.

Herod is threatened... deceit to eliminate the threat.

Magi are drawn to him, seek him. Overjoyed!

They bow down in worship

“...at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord” **Philippians 2:10-11**

Opened their treasures and presented gifts to him.

Gold... the gift of a king... rule, reign.

Frankincense... the gift of a servant... serving God, us

Myrrh... anointing the dead in burial... born to die.

Chief priests and teachers of the law

Religious folks failed to act on the truth. Indifference.