



Mighty in the Word

*For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1.18).*

*Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)
The Wise Still Seek Him*

*of the
Lord
Jesus Christ*

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They Saw His Star

Have you seen His star? Too often, when reading the Holy Bible, we read with our limited understanding of simple words; and, sadly, we define words based on our limited knowledge, not caring if there is a nugget in what we have read. We explain the passage with our limited understanding of what words means.

Having read and reread of this experience of the Wisemen over the years, it came to me that perhaps I am missing something in Matthew 2.2. Have you heard someone ever say, "I saw that coming." One cannot actually see something coming if it has not yet come – or can they?

Reading "...for we have seen his star in the east ..." caused me to ask, What is it that I do not know about the words *seen*, *saw*, in this passage. Yes, they had seen His star, but they are revealing to us more than a visual seeing. This word carries with it the understanding of more than seeing with the eye, physically seeing. It carries with it seeing more than "meets the eye." There may be a seeing into the situation, seeing what the situation has in it beyond the tangible, visual situation.

I believe the Wisemen studied the prophets, and realized that the star was more to them than what it might have been for star-gazers. I believe they were hearing from the Lord God something that He was asking of them. Could it be that, like Isaiah who experienced the glory of the Lord and saw his own sinfulness, cried out with repentance, "Woe is me for I am undone . . ."? Could it be that he could then hear the call of the Lord when He, the Lord God, said, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" and he could then hear the calling of the Lord upon His life, and respond, "Here am I, send me"?

Did the Wisemen hear a calling upon their lives comparable to Isaiah's call? Did the Lord God Almighty have a work for them as He did for the prophet Isaiah? What is significant is that those in the days of yore seemed so ready to respond to the call with a, "Yes!" not weighing the meaning, not weighing if their following His star would produce a great name for themselves, and if all the world would take notice of them. They understood their calling was to the Lord God Almighty and their accountability was to the Lord God, Himself – not others. They were making this journey because of their love for the Lord; they were to walk in obedience to Him to accomplish what He wanted of them.

Have you seen His star in the east? Have you seen Jesus? Have you experienced heaven coming down and glory filling your soul? This is about experiencing the King of kings, Lord of lords, a life changing experience that causes you to walk *The Via Dolorosa, The Way of the Cross*, that gives to you a joy you have never known, a joy that is beyond words, a joy, as Nehemiah writes, "The joy of the Lord is your strength" (Neh 8.10).

*Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch Him,
And say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.*

Author Unknown

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Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

Oh, for the days when the Word went forth by the lives lived for the Lord Jesus Christ in individuals daily walk with the Lord. Oh, for the beauty of the time when they could meet and break bread together in person, not via telecommunications, via live streaming on computers. Oh, for the day when there were real people, with flesh and blood, who would reach out and touch the lives of others for Jesus Christ.

When the Wisemen said they saw the star in the east, it was not only a tangible seeing of a star, it was seeing with their hearts what lay before them. It was not only seeing with their hearts which gave them joy and hope and life, but it was seeing beyond going to the location to visibly see the King of kings and Lord of lords. It was seeing deeply what was to come, seeing what it was that called them to make the long and arduous trip. I believe it was more than they could comprehend, it was an experience that they lived forever after, an experience that called them to a deeper life for the Lord, deeper than they could understand and put into words - as they must have endeavored to share their experience.

I believe it was an experience that may have cost them dearly, cost beyond money, perhaps cost them their family and friends who would not understand their leaving home to cross the desert, to take such a possibly long and dangerous journey that could have perhaps cost them their lives.

Oh, that today there were wise people in the sense of the Wise-men who saw with their very beings, their hearts, the Holy One of Israel, the Lord Jesus Christ – and were willing to count the cost to leave all behind to go – see, willing to leave family and friends for years – all because they saw. They turned their hearts, their eyes, their minds, and travelled over the desert, a long, hard, harsh trip to behold the glory that lay before them. They desired to know the King of kings. *Knowing* in the Hebrew language is an intimate knowing; it is not using plastic to get the latest information given by the world, information that brings harm – not knowledge.

The Wisemen recognized in whose presence they were. To recognize the presence of the Lord is to experience the presence of the glory of the Lord. This is heaven coming down. This is glory filling the soul. People today refer to the Lord Jesus Christ as their "buddy," "the man upstairs," as being "one of them" in their sinful living. Oh, how the Lord God Almighty in Jesus Christ is blasphemed by all today, all except those who have totally surrendered their lives to Him, those who know that He is the King of kings and Lord of lords, who understand Who He is.

I believe it was because they were on *The Way* that they encountered the glory of the Lord. *The Via Dolorosa, The Way of the Cross*, is to be walking with the Lord Jesus Christ. *Way* is a road, route, direction, pathway, a highway, a course – direction. The Wisemen were on *The Way* in their life's journey; they had a heart to see and hear what the Lord God wanted of them, a heart to obey the calling of the Lord God Almighty.

But, oh, the ministry, how the Lord used them to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in their land in the east that changed the lives of others. When one sees as did

they, sees with their hearts, and experiences the presence of the King of kings and Lord of lords; the Word of God in Christ Jesus pours forth like an artesian well, a fountain of life that cannot be stopped, a fountain of Living Water that changes their lives each time the Word pours forth, comes forth out of them to tell another soul who in turn is changed as were they, changed as they gave their hearts and lives to Jesus Christ, and they see something of what the Wisemen saw.

When people see with their whole heart what the Wisemen saw, their lives are changed, and, they, in turn, tell others what they see, what they have been given to see with their hearts – and the lives of others are changed. What a profound understanding of missionary work occurred from the Wisemen who desired more and more of Jesus and were so on fire that I believe they could not be stopped.

When I read Matthew 2.1, 2 and 10, the Word comes alive in me. Can you hear the Wisemen who are so full of joy, a joy that cannot be contained, a joy that goes forth without thinking of what others might think, without thinking if harm could come to them - as they share the efficacy they see in such an experience and how they have been changed by what they saw?

Can you hear the Wisemen who are asking a now question, a question that needs answering now as they do not want to lose a moment; they want to find the King of the Jews. They are not impressed by being in the presence of King Herod; their hearts are set on the King of kings, King Jesus. Their focus is firmly on Jesus.

They saw the star in the east with their hearts. I believe it burned deeply within their souls in a way that caused them to realize they had no choice but to follow that star not caring where it led them, not caring the cost. Their hearts burned with a zeal and joy to find the King of the Jews. They could not begin to comprehend the profundity of this experience. They could not comprehend or know the power that lay in their "seeing" the star in the east, seeing with their hearts that which they could not understand, seeing in a way that they could not but make that journey to Bethlehem though a dangerous desert.

Notice the Word, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?" This is not an election of man to a position given him by those who believe they can have control over a nation by being a man-pleaser. This is not an election of man to a position given him by those who have money and can give him this position as a puppet to do their bidding. This is not an inherited position given him by a family of power. No. No. No. This is given to Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem, by the Lord God Almighty. This was given Him before His birth because He came from the only living God Who alone could send His only Begotten Son to a lost and dying world.

The Word says they saw the young child and Mary. *Saw* is perception by sight; it is also visions of the Lord God which one can see. I believe this is to see what others do not see. Think about it. We read of no one else seeing the star in the east. The Wisemen had hearts to see what no one else could see. They had hearts to see Jesus, to see what was beyond knowing. How many times are people like this rejected, mocked, and discarded!