

I. Who Welcomed Jesus?

A. Stars

Matt. 2:2- “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw **His star** in the east and have come to worship Him.”

Gen. 1:16-God made the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; **He made the stars also.**

B. Angels

Luke 1:26-Now in the sixth month the angel **Gabriel** was sent from God to a city in Galilee named Nazareth.

Luke 1:30-33-³⁰ And the **angel** said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

C. OT prophecy

Matt. 1:21-23-²¹ She will give birth to a Son; and you shall name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” ²² Now all this took place so that **what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet would be fulfilled:** ²³ “Behold, the virgin will conceive and give birth to a Son, and they shall name Him Immanuel,” which translated means, “God with us.”

Matt. 2:4-6-⁴ And gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They said to him, “**In Bethlehem of Judea; for this is what has been written by the prophet:** ⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, Are by no means least among the leaders of Judah; For from you will come forth a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.’”

Luke 24:25-And *then* He said to them, “You foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the **prophets** have spoken!”

D. Watchers

Luke 2:25-And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was **Simeon**; and this man was righteous and devout, **looking forward to the consolation of Israel**; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

Luke 2:36-37-³⁶ And there was a prophetess, **Anna**, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with *her husband* for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and *then* as a widow to the age of eighty-four. **She did not leave the temple grounds, serving night and day with fasts and prayers.**

E. Babylonian Magi

Matt. 2:1-2-¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, **magi from the east** arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ² “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.”

Num. 24:17-I see him, but not now; I look at him, but not near; A **star** shall appear from Jacob, A scepter shall rise from Israel, And shall smash the forehead of Moab, And overcome all the sons of Sheth.

Deut. 23:4-because they did not meet you with food and water on the way when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of **Mesopotamia**, to curse you.

Dan. 9:25-So you are to know and understand *that* from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, until Messiah the Prince, *there will be* seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, *with* streets and moat, even in times of distress.

Dan. 2:48-49-⁴⁸ Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts, and he made him ruler over the entire province of Babylon, and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. ⁴⁹ And Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego over the administration of the province of Babylon, while Daniel *was* at the king’s court.

F. **Shepherds**

Luke 2:8-12-⁸ In the same region there were *some* **shepherds** staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock at night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord *suddenly* stood near them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. ¹⁰ And *so* the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; ¹¹ for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.¹² And this *will be* a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:16-18-¹⁶ And they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger.¹⁷ When they had seen *Him*, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it were amazed about the things which were told them by the shepherds.

Luke 2:20-And the **shepherds** went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

G. **Mary**

Luke 1:47-And my spirit has rejoiced in God **my Savior**.

Luke 2:19-But **Mary treasured** all these things, pondering them in her heart.

II. Who Did not welcome Jesus?

A. **Inn keeper**

Luke 2:7-And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because **there was no room for them in the inn**.

B. Herod

Matt. 2:3-When Herod the king heard *this*, he was **troubled**, and **all Jerusalem** with him.

Matt. 2:7-Then Herod **secretly** called for the magi and determined from them the exact time the star appeared.

Matt. 2:16-Then when Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he became very **enraged**, and sent *men* and killed all the boys who were in Bethlehem and all its vicinity who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had determined from the magi.

C. First-century Hebrew leadership-

Despite Matt. 2:2-“Where is He who has been born **King of the Jews**? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.

Matt. 2:3-When Herod the king heard *this*, he was **troubled**, and **all Jerusalem** with him.

John 1:11-He came to His own, and His own people did not accept Him.

D. Human race

Four soils (Matt. 13)

Rev. 19:19-And I saw the beast and the **kings of the earth and their armies, assembled to make war against Him** who sat on the horse, and against His army.

III. Which one are you?

A. Justification

John 5:24-Truly, truly, I say to you, the one who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

B. Sanctification

1 Thess. 5:19-Do not quench the Spirit.

Rom. 13:14-But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.