

JESUS EARLY LIFE

Quote:

And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.

And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.

Luke 2:46

Bible Marking (Matthew 2)

Matthew 2:1 - **“wise men”** – Gk ‘magi’. They possibly knew this because of Daniel. The Magi originated in Babylon (**Jeremiah 39:3,13** – ‘rab mag’ = chief of the magi). Daniel was wiser than them all (**Daniel 1:20**) and was appointed as **“Master of the Magicians”** (**Daniel 5:11**). Daniel preached the truth to those with whom he came in contact (Melzar, Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, Darius, Cyrus). The angel revealed to Daniel the details of the 70 weeks prophecy (**Daniel 9:25**) revealing the time when Messiah would be born. It would appear Daniel told this to the magi.

Matthew 2:11 - **“worshipped”** - Means “to reverence”. Also used in **v2** and **v8**. The RV margin has: “The Greek word denotes an act of reverence, whether paid to man or to God”. It is permissible to show such reverence towards people if the circumstances justify it and Yahweh’s position is upheld (cp **Acts 10:25-26**):

- **Revelation 3:9** - those of the synagogue of Satan would be caused to worship at the feet of the faithful.
- **Matthew 18:26** - The servant seeking forgiveness from his master.
- **Daniel 2:46** - Nebuchadnezzar worshipped Daniel. But Daniel’s friends would not worship (same word) the golden image (**Daniel 3**).
- **Luke 14:10** - The man who went to the lower room and was promoted to go up higher (different Gk word).

Matthew 2:23 - **“Nazarene”** -

Two possible meanings:

1. An allusion to the Hebrew ‘Netzer’ meaning ‘a branch’. This word is found in **Isaiah 11:1; Jeremiah 23:5, 6**.
2. An allusion to the general teaching of the prophets that Christ would be despised (indicated in **John 1:46**). See **Isaiah 53:3; Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 22:7**

Gifts for a Prophet, Priest & King

“gold” – symbol of tried faith – **1 Peter 1:7** - a gift appropriate for a King.

“frankincense” – the symbol of prayer (**Exodus 30:34**) – a gift appropriate for a priest.

It comes from a spice tree. It is the white gum that comes forth from the slightest scratch. Therefore it is an appropriate symbol for prayer, which we should turn to on all occasions.

“myrrh” – perfume used in anointing oil – a gift appropriate for a prophet.

Myrrh signifies bitterness – it has a bitter taste but an agreeable smell. The work of God often brings bitterness (**Ezekiel 3:14; Revelation 10:9-10**). See **1 Peter 2:19-25**.

Bible Marking (Luke 2)

Luke 2:40 - **“child”** – Gk ‘paidion’ = a young child. A younger child than the word used in **v43**. A child of lesser capacity.

“grew” – means to increase (**1 Corinthians 3:6-7** – **“God gives the increase”**)

“waxed strong” – the strength developed was a spiritual strength as that was the direction of his training. Used four times: John the Baptist (Luke 1:80); Christ (Luke 2:40); 1 Corinthians 16:13; Ephesians 3:16.

Both John and Christ were well grounded in the things of the spirit Word, and thus were well equipped to stand fast. See Proverbs 20:11; Psalm 80:17.

“filled with wisdom” – ‘filled’= “to make full”. That is – as his capacity grew, so he was filled with wisdom (see v52). See Isaiah 50:4-9.

“grace of God was upon him” – The graceful character of God was seen in him (God manifestation) – see John 1:14,17; seen even in the words he spake (Luke 4:22).

Luke 2:46 - **“hearing”** – to hear and understand/ perceive the sum of what is said.

“asking them questions” - This use of questions and answers became a feature of his ministry. ie Matthew 16:8-15.

Luke 2:47 - **“astonished”** – “to throw out of position” see Luke 4:22,32; Psa 119:97-100.

“understanding” – ‘a running together’ from a root word meaning ‘to set/ bring together/ join together in the mind’.

“answers” – Used four times (three times by Christ) - Luke 2:47; Luke 20:36; John 19:9; John 1:22 (John the Baptist).

Luke 2:52 - See Proverb 3:3-4; I Samuel 2:26.

“increased” – Gk ‘prokopto’ = “to beat forward”, "lengthen by hammering”.

The development of Christ took place through the trials of life he endured even at a young age. (Hebrews 5:8).

“favour” – that which affords pleasure, joy and delight (Gk ‘charis’ – grace).