

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022

*Matthew 2: 1, 2 "After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.'"*

*Matthew 2: 13 "When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. 'Get up,' he said, 'take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.'"*

There seems to be uncertainty as to when the Magi came looking for Jesus. Probably it was when he was about 2 years old. What made them come and from where? If they had started their journey from a country to the east of Judea how come they saw a star 'in the east'? Were they just making an inspired guess from their deep study of old texts and prophecies? Did God cause a star to appear which they were intrigued enough to follow? We will never know but they were sure that they were on the right track and were obviously pleased to discover they had been right.

Their presence triggered evil thoughts in Herod's mind who set about trying to destroy Jesus by a scorched earth policy of killing children. God ensured that Jesus escaped to Egypt where there were several enclaves of Jews to offer shelter and protection. Why do we struggle to outwit God when we would do better just to submit to His will?