**That it might be fulfilled – Matt. 2:6**

**Focal Truth: Jesus Christ was born & lives as Ruler of the nations – Shepherd of His people that the Scriptures might be fulfilled**

**Observations**

1. **The Magi from the nations searched for the place where Jesus Christ King of the Jews was to be born - 2:1-2**

*Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?*

1. Magi = magos = one of leaned and priestly class – magicians
2. The Magi were royal counselors – star gazers – astrologers
3. The Magi came from the east – Arabia – Persia – India
4. The star led them from the east to the place where Jesus was living with Mary & Joseph
5. **The Magi from the nations came to worship Jesus Christ the King of the Jews & of the nations – 2:2**

*For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him*

Worship = to kiss the hand in reverence, to kneel & do homage

1. The Gentile Magi remind us that the nations will submit & worship the Lord Jesus Christ the King of the Jews & the nations
2. The nations will worship the Lord Jesus Christ through salvation in Jesus Christ in the days of grace
3. The nations will worship the Lord Jesus Christ globally in the millennial reign of Jesus Christ
4. The saved of the nations sing endless praise to the Lord Jesus Christ in heaven
5. The angels & saved of the nations sing the new song of the Lamb in heaven endlessly

*And they sang a new song saying, Worthy are You to take the book & break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign on the earth – Rev. 5:8-9*

**Consider**

*Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn…Isa. 60:3*

*The Redeemer the Holy One of Israel – to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation…Kings will see you and rise up, princes will see and bow down, because of the Lord who is faithful Isa. 49:7*

1. **Herod the King of the Jews was not prepared for the coming of Jesus Christ the Messiah King of the Jews & the nations – 2:3 -4**

*he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born*

1. Herod was known as “Herod the Great” the Roman ruler of Judea
2. Herod was a master builder who prided himself in his buildings

“His was a world of power, prestige & personal importance & image”

1. Herod was of Arab descent – an Arab father & Jewish mother – he was a practicing Jew
2. Herod did not know the Scriptures concerning the coming of the Messiah for Israel
3. Herod was troubled – paranoid about the news of the birth of the Messiah – King of the Jews – Messiah Jesus was a threat to his power & control!
4. Herod was a king over the Jews but he was not the King of the Jews
5. Herod sought to kill Messiah Jesus – the King of the Jews
6. **Jesus Christ - King – Shepherd was born in Bethlehem that it might be fulfilled from the scriptures - 2:5**

*They said, in Bethlehem of Judea; for this is what has been written by the prophet: and*

 *you, Bethlehem, land of Judea, are by no means least among the leaders of Judah; for*

 *out of you shall come forth a Ruler who will Shepherd My people Israel – Mic.5:2*

 *From you one shall come forth to rule Israel for Me – One whose origin is from of old,*

 *from ancient times – Targum of Micah*

1. Bethlehem was the birthplace of King David
2. Bethlehem is the promised city of the Messiah

*“Out of you shall come forth a Ruler who will Shepherd My people Israel”*

**Messiah Jesus Christ came forth born in a stable in Bethlehem insignificantly**

**Messiah Jesus Christ came forth as King – Shepherd unnoticed by the world**

**Messiah Jesus Christ came forth as King – Shepherd feared by a king of the Jews**

**Messiah Jesus Christ came forth as King – Shepherd worshipped by the nations**

1. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Ruler - Shepherd of the nations – Rev. 1:5
2. The Lord Jesus Christ is eternal Son of God – Ruler - Shepherd

*His goings forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity – Mic.5:2*

1. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Great Shepherd of His people

*And He will arise and shepherd His flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God. And they will remain at that time He will be great to the ends of the earth – Mic. 5:4*

1. The Lord Jesus Christ King – Shepherd is our peace!

***This One will be our peace – Mic. 5:5***

 ***Isa. 9:6 – for a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government***

 ***will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty***

 ***God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace***

***Consider***

1. Herod was buried in his massive mountain fort three miles from Bethlehem the birthplace of Jesus Christ the King of the Jews & the nations
2. ***No one has ever worshipped at the burial place of Herod – but millions have worshipped at the stable where Jesus Christ the King of the nations was born!***

**Things to Remember & Do**

1. Jesus Christ reigns as King & Shepherd of Israel & the nations fulfilling God’s promise
2. Jesus Christ the chief Shepherd is coming again – 1 Pet. 5:4

*When the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory*

1. All kings will bow down to him and all nations will serve Him – Ps. 72:10 -11

***Let all kings bow down before Him, all nations serve Him***

1. *Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect* Heb.13:20

**And You, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the leaders of Judah; for out of you shall come forth a Ruler who will Shepherd My people Israel – Matt. 2:6**

**To the praise of the glory of His grace! The Lord is at the door! Come Lord Jesus!**