

Matthew 2:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

Analysis

The magi's 'exceeding great joy' at finding Christ demonstrates the proper response to divine revelation. Their journey, likely months long across hundreds of miles, shows persevering faith that endures hardship to reach Christ. This contrasts sharply with Jerusalem's religious leaders who had Scripture but lacked desire to walk five miles to Bethlehem to see the Messiah.

Historical Context

Ancient travel was arduous and dangerous, requiring significant investment of time and resources. The magi's willingness to make this journey based on a star demonstrates remarkable faith and determination to find the promised King.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. What does the contrast between the magi's journey and the priests' apathy reveal about true versus nominal faith?

2. How far are you willing to go—spiritually and practically—to encounter Christ more fully?

Interlinear Text

ἰδόντες δὲ τὸν ἀστέρα ἐχάρησαν χαρὰν μεγάλην
they saw When G3588 the star they rejoiced joy great
G1492 G1161 G792 G5463 G5479 G3173

σφόδρα
with exceeding
G4970

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 105:3 (Parallel theme): Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

Luke 2:10 (Parallel theme): And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

Luke 2:20 (Parallel theme): And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Psalms 67:4 (Parallel theme): O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.

Deuteronomy 32:13 (Parallel theme): He made him ride on the high places of the earth, that he might eat the increase of the fields; and he made him to suck honey out of the rock, and oil out of the flinty rock;