



Winter Issue

"THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM"

December 2023

**I** see him, but not now; I behold him, but not nigh: There shall come forth a star out of Jacob, And a scepter shall rise out of Israel, And shall smite through the corners of Moab, And break down all the sons of tumult. Numbers 24:17

It has been a while since our last newsletter. As I sit here writing this newsletter, we see the usual Christmas season buzz, with people busy doing what they do in this season. You see a lot of mention of Santa Claus, Christmas trees, buying and partying going on as usual. Very little or no mention made of the real meaning of Christmas, which is the birth of our Messiah Jesus Christ Yahushua. He is the reason for the season.

*Very little to nothing is known about Mary's past, Joseph's past, their marriage and Jesus' childhood years.* We have been relatively quiet, doing much praying, studying and seeking the LORD concerning the things mentioned above and many other things. This is going to be a very special Christmas Season, in more ways than one. Therefore, because of the times that we are presently in, *we will be starting a new teaching series about these things in Revelations Beyond the Veil.*



There are many things hidden in the Vatican library which have come to light thanks to the Dead Sea Scrolls discovery. However today In this Newsletter, we will endeavor to shed some light on Balaam's prophecy and the Star of Bethlehem. The Word of God depicts Balaam as a greedy prophet whose ass tried to stop him from cursing Israel (Numbers 22-24). This event has been discovered in several catacomb paintings. Balaam was an Arab from a town near the Euphrates, who was also a descendant of Abraham through his son Ishmael.

King Balak offered Balaam money to utter curses on the Jews, but he could not curse them. An angel barred Balaam's way and even his own donkey tried to stop him from cursing the Israelites. In spite of being paid to curse the Jews, Balaam could only pronounce blessings upon them (Numbers 23-24).



Numbers 24:17 *"I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; A scepter will rise out of Israel."*

This scripture has been found in many catacombs not only as a Messianic prophecy, but as a prediction of the Star of Bethlehem. Scientists and Bible scholars have speculated for a long time about the Star of Bethlehem. Was it a sudden bright star; a conjunction of the Moon and Jupiter in Aries that occurred in April 6 BC; a special astronomical phenomena created by God or was the Star of Bethlehem something else? We will never know for sure.

In the Dead Sea Scrolls discovered, Balaam's prophecy is one of the most frequently quoted Messianic texts. *It is really interesting that the Most High would use Balaam, a sinful prophet,* to not only give a prophecy concerning the birth of Jesus, but also about the star that the wise men from the East would follow in order to find the new born King and worship Him. There is no record of anyone else that noticed or followed the star but the wise men from the East.

It is interesting that the "wise men" or "Magi" refers to a class of wise men from Persia that were like priests, interpreters of signs. They were also considered to have had supernatural knowledge, ability or a magician. The Wise Men from the east could have been considered astrologers. They might also have known Jewish prophecy, probably because of the time the Jews spent in Babylon during captivity.

In an ancient historical text ascribed to Eusebius of Caesarea from the fourth century, it mentions how the Magi recognized the Star. Below is a condensed summary of its contents. According to the text, in the days of King Pirshbur a terrible Star appeared, so bright that it overpowered all the stars that were in the heavens. *When the Persians saw it, they were afraid and knew that this was what Balaam had foretold.*



As the news spread through the whole East, the King of Persia prepared offerings and gifts to send them by the hand of the Magi. Because the King did not know where the Messiah was born, he commanded the wise men from the East saying: "Travel towards the Star, follow it and keep observing its light." Whenever they traveled they stayed outside the cities, not inside until they reached the gates of Jerusalem over which the Star stood still. This alarmed the inhabitants and terrified the priests.

When the Magi entered the gates of Jerusalem, they saw that neither the King, the priests nor the chiefs of the people perceived the coming of the Messiah and that the Star was concealed to them. The Magi understood that *they did not perceive the birth of the Son, nor were they able to see the Star because they were not worthy*; so they left the city by night. The moment they did, the Star appeared unto them, and they followed it until it stood still over the cave of Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

In that hour they opened their treasures and offered unto Him many presents and gifts of offerings bowing down in adoration before the Messiah, that their offerings might be accepted, and that they might be delivered from the hateful treachery which they had seen in Jerusalem, and that they might reach their own country without fear, and carry back word to those who had sent them of what they had seen and heard.

The Magi spent the night there, and the Star also stopped with them above the cave. They rose up early in the morning and set out for their country, and it was for second time going on before them on the way, which was different from the former one; and until they had entered their city, it did not quit them. When they entered into the presence of the king who had sent them, they narrated all that they had seen and heard.

These things were written down there in inner Persia and were stored up among the records of the deeds of the kings, where was stored the history of the Hittites and the account of the Star, that they might be preserved where the histories of the ancients were preserved. Joseph was warned in a dream about King Herod's treachery, and told to take Mary and the child to Egypt, a foreign country of a barbarous tongue where they dwelt for four years during which Herod continued to reign after their flight.

At the commencement of the reign of Herod's son, Joseph, Mary and our LORD along with them and the five sons of Hannah, the first wife of Joseph, arose and went up from that land to the country of Galilee. This information comes from a text ascribed to Eusebius of Caesarea titled 'Concerning the Star'.

There is no record in the New Testament of Joseph's life prior to his being mentioned in the Bible as Mary's husband. Now, according to newly discovered material from the Dead Sea Scrolls it appears that Joseph had a prior wife and children. This new information does not contradict in any way God's Word, but it helps us understand some things better. We have been talking about this, Mary, the childhood miracles of Jesus and much more in [Revelations Beyond the Veil](#).

We will end this newsletter the same way we started; with the Star of Bethlehem. According to Douglas Ellwell, the author of Planet X The Sign of the Son of Man, Planet X is the key that unlocks all the mysteries of Creation, the Nativity and the 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ. In our latest [Conversations Beyond the Veil](#), we talked about this and other interesting information concerning the Star of Bethlehem and Planet X.

2 Peter 1:19 *And we have the word of prophecy made more sure; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts:*



Rev 2:25-28 *But that which you have already hold fast till I come. And he that overcomes, and keeps my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to pieces: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star.*

Numbers 24:17 alludes to the Star that accompanied the birth of the King of Israel being used to smite His enemies. 2 Peter 1:19, Revelation 2:26-28; 22:16 also allude to these very same things. Could it be that Planet X, the Sign of the Son of Man, spoken of in Mathew 24:29-31, that signals the beginning of the Day of the LORD, when it comes will deliver the righteous but destroy the wicked (Malachi 4:1-3) just like the time of Noah's flood and the Jewish Exodus out of Egypt? Selah ~

Mal 4:1-3 *The LORD Almighty says, "The day is coming when all proud and evil people will burn like straw. On that day they will burn up, and there will be nothing left of them. But for you who obey me, my saving power will rise on you like the sun and bring healing like the sun's rays. You will be as free and happy as calves let out of a stall. On the day when I act, you will overcome the wicked, and they will be like dust under your feet.*

We'll continue to talk about these and many other interesting things in our teaching series [Revelations Beyond the Veil](#). May our Heavenly Father grant us the strength to go through this long test and finish our race so that when the LORD Jesus Christ appears, we may be found worthy to escape all the things that are coming upon this world, and to stand before the Son of Man (Luke 21:34-36).