

July 10

Worship the Shepherd King!

He shall stand, and shall shepherd in the strength of Yahweh,
in the majesty of the name of Yahweh his God:
and they will live, for then he will be great to the ends of the earth – Micah 5:4

[Matthew 2:1-12, Jerusalem/Bethlehem]
Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of King Herod, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who is born King of the Jews? For we saw his star in the east, and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard it, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Gathering together all of the chief priests and scribes of the people, he asked them where the Christ would be born. They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is written through the prophet,

‘You Bethlehem, land of Judah,
are in no way least among the princes
of Judah:
for out of you shall come forth a governor,
who shall shepherd my people, Israel.’”
[Micah 5:2,4]

*They rejoiced with exceedingly
great joy... and they fell down
and worshiped him*

Then Herod secretly called the wise men, and learned from them exactly what time the star appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem, and said, “Go and search diligently for the young child. When you have found him, bring me word, so that I also may come and worship him.”

They, having heard the king, went their way; and behold, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, until it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. They came into the house and saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Opening their treasures, they offered to him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Being warned in a dream that they shouldn't return to Herod, they went back to their own country another way.

1. Again, imagine being Mary. How would it feel to have these wise men worship Jesus?
2. Herod wanted to destroy Jesus; the wise men wanted to worship; what will you do today?
3. Jesus, you are king over all true sons of Israel—including me; today, please rule over...