

The image shows two wrapped Christmas gifts on a dark wooden surface. The gift on the left is wrapped in green paper with a large, multi-looped bow made of red and plaid ribbon. The gift on the right is wrapped in red and green plaid paper with a red and gold striped ribbon bow, decorated with a small pinecone and red berries. The background is a blurred Christmas tree with warm, glowing lights in yellow, orange, and green. In the foreground, there are sprigs of green pine needles and several red berries, some with gold and red ornaments.

**What's the Best  
Christmas Gift You  
Have Ever Received?**



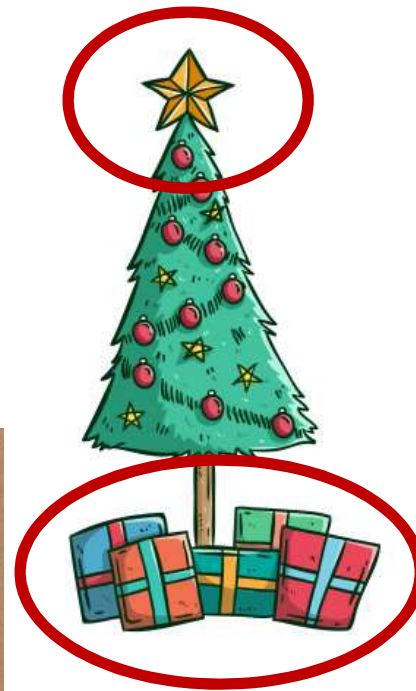
The image features two Christmas gifts on a dark wooden surface. The gift on the left is wrapped in green paper with a large, multi-looped bow made of red and plaid ribbons. The gift on the right is wrapped in plaid paper with a red and gold striped ribbon, and is decorated with a small pinecone and red berries. The background is filled with out-of-focus Christmas lights in warm colors like yellow, orange, and red, along with green pine branches and red berries.

# Christmas Gifts

**Gospel of Matthew**  
**聖經馬太福音 2:1-12**



# Star 聖誕之星



# Christmas Gift 聖誕禮物





**東方幾個博士？ How many Magi from  
the East came to see baby Jesus?**

## Matthew 馬太福音2:1-3

<sup>1</sup>希律王执政的时候，耶稣生在犹太的伯利恒。那时，有几个占星家(博士)从东方来到耶路撒冷，<sup>2</sup>说：「那生下来作犹太人的王的在哪里？我们看见他的星出现，特来朝拜他。」<sup>3</sup>希律王听见了就心里不安，全耶路撒冷的居民也是这样。

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi (Wise men) from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup>and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

## Matthew 馬太福音2:4-6

**4**他就召集所有的祭司长和民间的经学家，问他们基督应该生在哪里。**5**他们回答：「在犹太的伯利恒。因为有先知在经上这样说：**6**『犹大地的伯利恒啊！你在犹太的领袖中，并不是最小的，因为必有一位领袖从你那里出来，牧养我的子民以色列。』」

**4** When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. **5** "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: **6** " 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.' "

## Matthew 馬太福音2:7-9

<sup>7</sup>希律暗中把占星家召来，仔细查问他们，那颗星什么时候出现，<sup>8</sup>然后派他们到伯利恒去，说：「你们去细心寻访那小孩，找到了就向我报告，好叫我也去拜他」<sup>9</sup>他们听命去了.他们在东方看见的那颗星，忽然在他们前头，领他们到那小孩所在的地方，就在上头停住了.

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.

<sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” <sup>9</sup> After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

## **Matthew 馬太福音2:10-12**

**10**他们看见那颗星，欢喜极了；**11**进了房子，看见小孩和他母亲马利亚，就俯伏拜他，并且打开宝盒把黄金、乳香、没药作礼物献给他。**12**后来他们在梦中得着指示不要回到希律那里去，就从别的路回乡去了。

**10** When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

**11** On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



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# 東方占星家(博士) Magi (Wise men) from the East



<https://www.123rf.com/>

Image from:

<https://www.scross.co.za/2008/11/balthasar-melchior-and-gaspar/>



Image: <https://www.dream-alcala.com/santa-claus-vs-three-wise-men/>



# 1. Proactive vs. Passive - Take Action!



Image from: Dreamstime

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**Possible Route? East = Persia 波斯?**  
**400 - 1500 miles**  
**3 weeks – 3 months by Camels**

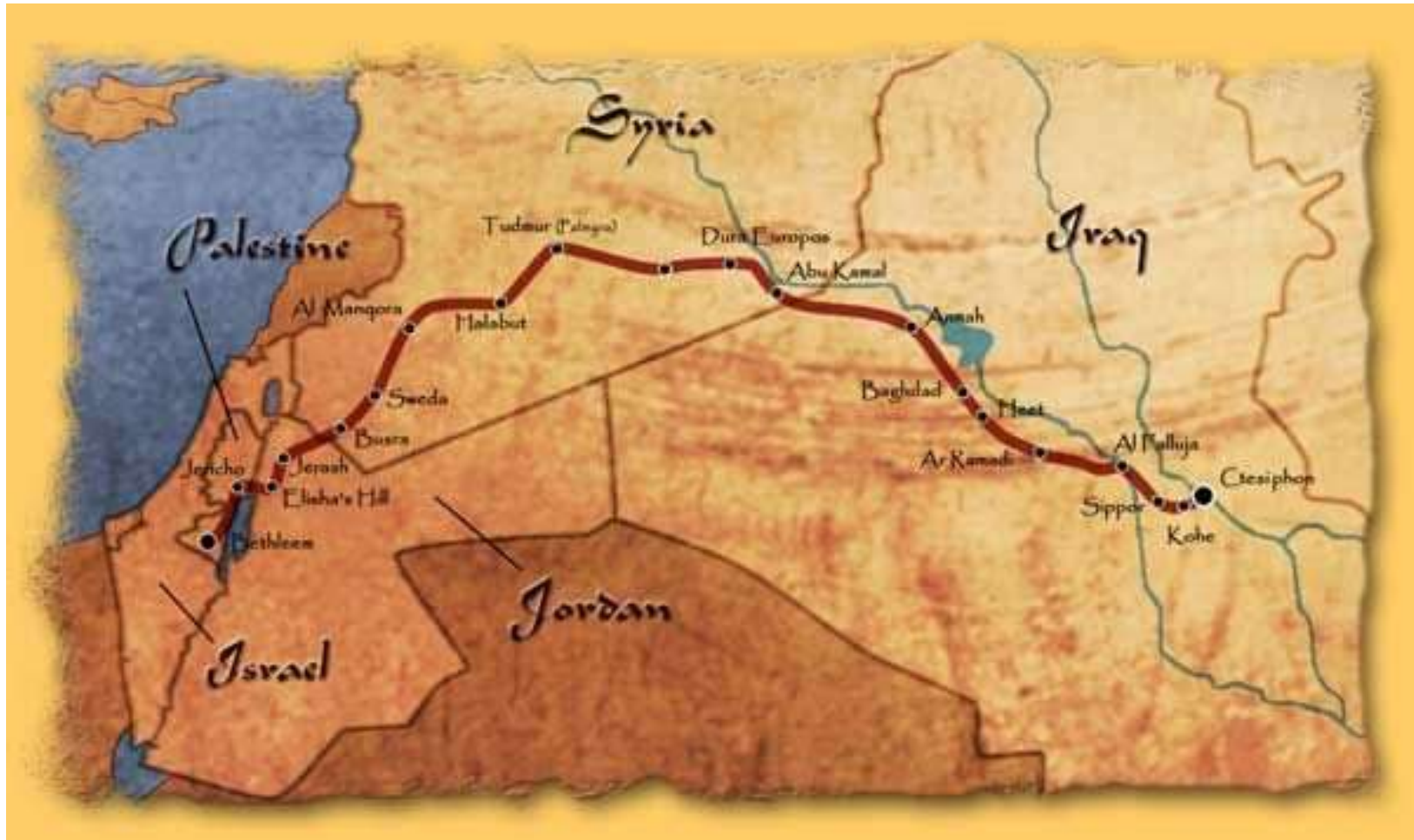


Image from: <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/282037995394403908/?lp=true>



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Image from: Dreamstime



## Matthew 馬太福音2: 3, 7-8

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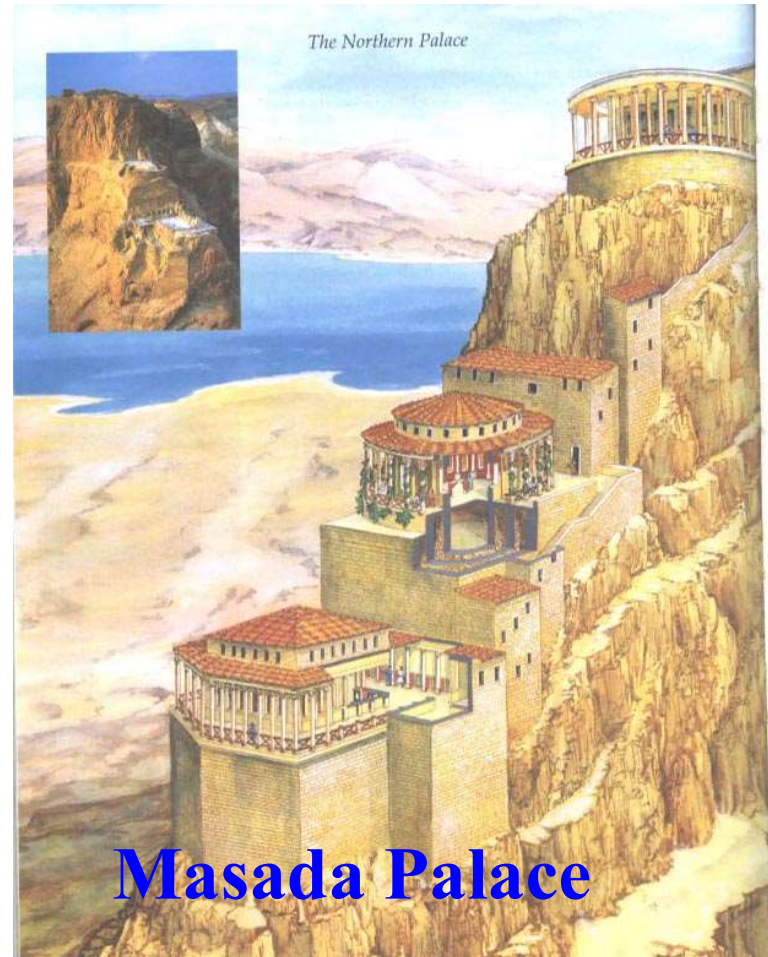
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# Herod the Great (74 BC – 4 BC)

Image from:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herod\\_the\\_Great](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herod_the_Great)





# The One True King



Image from: <https://sciencefiction.com/2019/03/22/michael-dougherty-shares-that-godzilla-king-of-the-monsters-will-ramp-up-the-action-from-the-original/>



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- 1. Proactive vs. Passive**
- 2. Secure vs. Insecure**



**Image from: Dreamstime**

## **Matthew 馬太福音2:16**

希律见自己被占星家愚弄了，就大怒，于是照着他从占星家所问得的日子，下令把伯利恒和附近地方两岁以下的小孩全都杀死。 **When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.**



- 1. Proactive vs. Passive**
- 2. Secure vs. Insecure**



**Image from: Dreamstime**



- 1. Proactive vs. Passive**
- 2. Secure vs. Insecure**
- 3. Giving vs. Withholding**



**Image from: <https://www.wemystic.fr/encens-myrrhe/>**

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WAIT A MINUTE...  
WHAT THE HECK IS  
FRANKINCENSE?

CARTOONSTOCK

Search ID: tcln22





**Gold 黃金**

**Jesus as a King 君王**



**Frankincense 乳香**

**Jesus as a Priest 祭司**



**Myrrh 沒藥**

**Foreshadows Jesus'  
Sacrifice / Mortal Death**



- 1. Proactive vs. Passive**
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# Christmas Gifts

1. Proactive vs. Passive
2. Secure vs. Insecure
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# Prayer Needs

- Headache
- Right knee, foot pain
- Lower back pain
- Teeth pain
- Sleeping disorder
- Skin allergy
- Infertility
- Stomach pain
- Loneliness
- Game addiction
- Spiritual Warfare
- Feelings of negativity
- Deep sorrow
- Stress
- Depression
- Disharmony btw family
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_?

