



A DAY WITH THE KING



Wise Men
Follow the Star

DAILY DEVOTIONAL 74



SUNDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for being patient with me. Please help me to be patient with other people, just as You are. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - LUKE 21:31

“So you also, when you see these things happening, know that the kingdom of God is near.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

James 2:19; Revelation 12:9; John 3:16;

KEY TEXT: [Revelation 12:4](#)

“And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

The loyal angels had joyfully welcomed the birth of Jesus. But another mighty being was filled with astonishment and rage. Satan had used all of his deceptive power to trap as many people as he could into sin. He hoped that would make God think people were so bad He would give up His plan to save them. But God had not given up. Now Jesus had been born! Satan trembled at the message of God's angels as they sang of the glory and power of the newborn King. He and his angels knew that if Christ's mission was successful, their rule on Earth would soon end. Together they plotted how to destroy the helpless Baby. In Revelation 12:9 the Bible calls Satan a dragon. In verse 4 he is waiting to kill the Child (Jesus) that the woman (God's church) is about to deliver.

THE ANGRY DEVIL

The Bible also pictures Satan as another fierce animal. In today's puzzle, circle every fifth letter. Next, write the remaining letters in the first set of spaces below to find out what this animal is. Then write the circled letters in the second set of spaces to find out how to make him run away!

T		H	E	D		R	E	V	I	L	E	W		A	L	K	S
S	A	B		O	I	U	T		L	I	S		K	E		A	R
T		O	A	R		I	T		N		G	L	I	H		O	N
S	E	E	E		K	I	N	D	G		W	H	O	E	M		H
E	M		V	A	Y	D		E	I	V		O	U	R		L	

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----- . 1 Peter 5:8.

----- . James 4:7.





MONDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You that You send Your angels to help everyone in the world. Thank You for my guardian angel. In Jesus' name, Amen

MEMORY VERSE - LUKE 21:31

“So you also, when you ___ these things happening, _____ that the kingdom of God is near.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Luke 2:13,14; Matthew 2:1,2.

KEY TEXT: [Matthew 2:2](#)

“Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

On the night the angels sang to the shepherds, others were also watching the sky. At that time, Wise Men (Magi) from the east saw a mysterious light in the heavens towards the land of Israel. As the light faded, a glowing star appeared in the sky. The new star didn't move like other stars or planets, and the Wise Men wondered what it could be. The star was actually a distant group of shining angels, but the Wise Men didn't know that.

FOLLOWING THE STAR

Wanting to find out more, they at last turned to the Hebrew scrolls where Balaam's prophecies about Israel were recorded. What did they find there? Use the code below to find out! Then check your answer in Numbers 24:17

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

1 19 20 1 18 19 8 1 12 12 3 15 13 5

15 21 20 15 6 10 1 3 15 2 ; 1

19 3 5 16 20 5 18 19 8 1 12 12 18 9 19 5

15 21 20 15 6 9 19 18 1 5 12 .

Could this strange star have been sent as a sign of the Promised King who would bless the whole world? they wondered. The Wise Men went in search for the newborn King.

They left for their journey, not sure of where the star would take them, but they made sure to take gifts for the Baby-King. To follow the Star, they had to travel at night. Their long journey took them over deserts and mountains.





TUESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for Your plan to save me. Please help me to follow Your way. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - LUKE 21:31

“So you also, when you ___ these things happening, _____ that the kingdom of _____ is _____.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Mark 7:2-8.

KEY TEXT: Mark 7:9.

“You reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

At last, the Wise Men reached Palestine. The guiding star stopped right above the temple in Jerusalem, then faded out of sight. Quickly the Magi entered Jerusalem, sure that everyone would be talking about the promised Baby! But when they asked, "Where is He that is born King of the Jews?" no one knew what they were talking about. Instead, everyone seemed surprised and afraid.

Instead of thinking about God and the Messiah who would save them from sin, the priests and rulers were busy "doing" religious ceremonies, as if these would assure them a place in heaven. The Bible tells us that God's plan was to send Jesus to save people because He loved them. But Satan had deceived almost the whole world into thinking that they didn't need to follow God's plan to be saved. Even the Jews had a false idea about God and the coming Messiah. They read the Bible prophecies about the Messiah, but didn't understand what they meant.

DELIVERER KING PROPHECIES

Look up the prophecies about Jesus and fill in the blank words. Next, put the circled letters into the mystery word spaces to find the Jewish word for the promised deliverer King.

1. "Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name _____ _____." Isaiah 7:14.

2. "You shall call His name _____ _____." Matthew 1:21

3. "In your _____ _____ all the nations of the earth shall be blessed."

Genesis 22:18

4. "Unto us a _____ _____ is given." Isaiah 9:6.

5. "Behold, the _____ _____ shall conceive." Isaiah 7:14.

6. "A _____ _____ shall come out of Jacob." Numbers 24:17.

7. "For unto us a _____ _____ is born." Isaiah 9:6.

Mystery word: _____





WEDNESDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, thank You that Jesus came first as a baby. Please help me to watch for the signs that Jesus is coming again. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - LUKE 21:31

“So ___ also, when ___ ___ these things happening, ___ that the kingdom of ___ is ___.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

[Luke 2:25-38.](#)

KEY TEXT: [Luke 2:25,26](#)

“There was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, ... And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

If the priests and rulers had been studying the Bible, really wanting to know about the Messiah, the angels would have sung to them about Jesus' birth. But they weren't interested, so the angels had gone to the shepherds. Then, the angel-star led the Wise Men right to the temple where the priests were. God was giving the priests another chance to tell people about the newborn Messiah. What would they say?

The priests knew of the birth of John—the prophet who was to announce that the Messiah had come. They had heard about the angels' song to the shepherds, and the news of Jesus' birth. And when Jesus was dedicated in the temple, Simeon and Anna had both spoken prophecies about Him. All these were signs given by God to show that the prophecies about the Messiah were being fulfilled—right before them. But the priests had decided these signs were not important. They had told the people it was all a lot of excitement about nothing. Instead of studying the Bible carefully, and accepting the signs God sent, the priests refused to even think about whether Baby Jesus might really be God's Messiah.

SIGNS FROM HEAVEN

Read about the signs God gave of Jesus' birth to complete the acrostic.

		1	S						
	2		I						
3			G						
	4		N						
5			S						

1. "Then _____ blessed them."
Luke 2:34–35.

2. "After Jesus was born in
Bethlehem...behold, _____
from the East came to Jerusalem."
Matthew 2:1–2.

3. "... the _____ had gone away from them [the shepherds] into heaven."
Luke 2:15–18.

4. "Now there was one, _____, a prophetess." Luke 2:36–38.

5. "_____ also went up... to...Bethlehem...to be registered with Mary....".
Luke 2:4–7.





THURSDAY

LET'S PRAY Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to be God with us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - LUKE 21:31

“So ___ also, when ___ ___ these things
_____,
___ that the kingdom of ___ is ____.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Matthew 2:1-12.

KEY TEXT: Matthew 2:11

“And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

News of the Wise Men reached the palace of the wicked King Herod, who was terrified at the news of this Prince—One who was born to the throne! Herod was not born to be king, but was made king by the Romans. So, he decided to get rid of this Baby. Pretending he wanted to worship the Baby-King, he told the Wise Men to come back and tell him where they found the Baby.

The Wise Men left Jerusalem feeling very sad, for no-one had been excited—and where was the Baby? Had they come all this way for nothing? Suddenly, the angel-star appeared again in the sky so they followed it. The star led them to Bethlehem, right to the house where Jesus was staying. When they went in they saw Baby Jesus, and they bowed down and worshipped Him. Then they opened their treasures and gave Him their gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh.

WORSHIPPING GOD, OUR MAKER

The Wise Men knew that baby Jesus was God, and worshipped Him. In the puzzle circle every eighth letter. Write the remaining letters in the first set of spaces below to find out how we should pray to God. The circled letters go into the second set of spaces and say *why* we should worship God alone. Check your answers in Psalm 95:6 and 100:3.

O		H	C	O		M	E	L	H	E	T		U	S		W	O
R	E		S	H	I	P	A		N	D	M	B		O	W		D
O		W	N	A	L		E		T	U		S	K		N	D	E
E		L	B		E	F	O	E		R	E	T		H	E	L	
O	U		R	D	O		U	R		M	A	S	K		E		R

“ _____ , _____

_____ ,

_____ . Psalm 95:6.

_____ . Psalm 100:3.





FRIDAY

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You for sending angels to care for me. Please help me to obey You today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - LUKE 21:31

“So ____ also, when ____ these things
_____, _____ that the _____ of ____
is _____.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Matthew 2:13-18.

KEY TEXT: John 8:36

“Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Herod had pretended he wanted to worship Baby Jesus, but in fact, he was planning to kill him! But God protected His Son. God sent an angel with an urgent message to Joseph, who took Mary and Jesus and fled to Egypt where they would be safe.

Herod thought he was carrying out his own plans when he plotted to kill Baby Jesus. But the truth is that when we disobey God, we are really obeying Satan. We do what *he* wants us to. We become *his* slaves. Satan is an angel, which means he is a spirit. When he gets people on his side—called in Ephesians 2:2 “the children of disobedience”—Satan has them do his work of tempting and hurting others. Satan wanted to destroy Baby Jesus, and he worked through King Herod to try to do that.

THE SON WILL MAKE YOU FREE

All the words from today's Key Text are in the puzzle below. Find each of the words in the puzzle and colour them. How did Jesus set us free? Write the remaining letters (from left to right, top to bottom) in the blank spaces underneath, to find the answer (make sure you have found the correct “be”!). Check your answer, and read about it, in Philippians 2:5-7.

J	Y	E	S	M	A	K	E	S	U
S	Y	O	U	F	B	E	C	A	M
E	S	A	U	R	I	S	B	O	T
T	H	E	R	E	F	O	R	E	H
N	A	D	S	E	R	N	E	R	E
V	L	A	N	T	E	F	O	B	R
U	L	I	N	D	E	E	D	E	S





SABBATH

LET'S PRAY Dear God, thank You that Jesus is coming again soon. Please help me to be ready. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - LUKE 21:31

“So ____ also, when ____ these _____
_____, _____ that the _____ of ____
is _____.”

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Mark 13:32-36.

KEY TEXT: Mark 13:37.

“And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The Wise Men studied the Scriptures, and followed the signs God sent to confirm His Word. Today, there are also important events happening in our world. All around us are signs prophesied in the Bible. Our memory verse for this week tells us that these signs mean Jesus' second coming is near. Do you want to be ready for that great day? If you do, write to us and tell us!

How important that we study the Bible, obey it, and watch carefully to see how its prophecies are being fulfilled! Complete the next part of the Great Controversy Saga.

PART 7: FOLLOWING THE STAR

Egypt gifts happy Herod Jesus kill King plot
protected safe Satan save slave star treasures Wise

On the night when the angels sang to the shepherds, _____ men from the East saw a bright light over Israel. When a new _____ shone in the sky, they found the prophecy about Jesus being the star of Israel. They took _____, and followed the angel-star to find the newborn _____.

When the Wise Men came to Jerusalem, nobody seemed excited about the birth of Baby _____. When King _____ found out, he was terrified! He pretended he wanted to worship the Baby King, but instead, he was planning to _____ him!

The Wise Men left Jerusalem, and felt so _____ to see the angel-star once again, this time over Bethlehem. When they came to the house where Jesus was, they bowed down, and gave Him their _____.

King Herod thought he had made up a clever _____ to kill the special Baby. But the plot was really made up by _____ and his angels. By doing evil, Herod was working as Satan's _____. Satan tried to destroy Jesus before He could _____ the world, but God _____ His Son. Mary and Joseph, with Baby Jesus, fled to _____, where they were _____.



A DAY WITH THE KING

This week, we learn about Wise Men who followed a special star.



Torchlight

“At Bethlehem they found no royal guard stationed to protect the newborn King. None of the world’s honored men were in attendance. Jesus was cradled in a manger. His parents, uneducated peasants, were His only guardians... Beneath the lowly guise of Jesus, they recognized the presence of Divinity.”

– The Desire of Ages p. 63