

Green and Gold

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, ²"Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴Gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea ..." ⁷Then Herod secretly called the magi and determined from them the exact time the star appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found Him, report to me, so that I too may come and worship Him." ⁹After hearing the king, they went their way; and the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them until it came and stood over the place where the Child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way. (Matthew 2:1-12)

Green – The Greed Of Herod

1. Priority: It's All About Me

*Where is He who has been **born** King of the Jews? (2:2)*

2. Power: I Want The Control

*Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found Him, report to me, so that **I too may come and worship Him** (2:8)*

Result: A Distressed Christmas

*He was **troubled**, and all Jerusalem with him (2:3)*

Gold – The Devotion Of The Wise Men

1. They Focused On Christ

*We **saw His star** in the east and have come to worship Him (2:2)*

2. They Surrendered In Worship

*They **fell to the ground** and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (2:11)*

Result: A Joyful Christmas

*When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with **great joy** (2:10)*