

# Character(s) of Christ(mas)

## Wise Men – “Do” Diligence – Matthew 2:1-12

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### “Habits of Transformation”

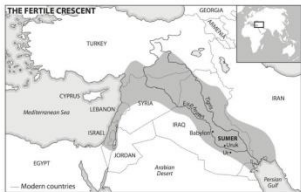
Internal: (the invitation)

- Deeper communion with God
- Deeper prayer life
- Deeper study/Deeper love for God's word

External: (the outgrowth, the “overflow”)

- Deeper commitment to service and Ministry
- Deeper worship
- Deeper application of God's word
- Deeper connection with the body of Christ

Fertile Crescent  
Tigris/Euphrates Rivers



Empires of Ancient Middle East



- Egypt
- Assyria
- Babylonia ----->
- Media and Persia----->
- Greece - Alexander the Great
- Rome ----->



The wise men – or Magi – reputation as “king-makers”...  
“descendants” – of the wise men, counselors, and advisers of Daniel’s day... astronomers/astrologers and interpreters of dreams... and followers of prophecy:

Numbers 22-24

Numbers 24:17

Daniel 7:13-14

Daniel 9:25

Herod the Great

What about this star?

Bottom line: God made His presence and power known to the magi, signaling that a new ruler had been born. They were diligently awaiting the sign and then they diligently acted upon it.

The wise men provide an example for us in at least three different areas: time, effort, and pride.

- 1) Time.
- 2) Effort.
- 3) Pride.

Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.