







TORAJA TRIBE, INDONESIA









# ***THREE WISE MEN***





# Wise Men from the East

Reflections on the  
journey of the Magi  
Matthew 2



The Three Magi, Byzantine mosaic c. 565, [Basilica of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo](#), [Ravenna](#), Italy (restored during the 19th century)



# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ,  
of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was born Isaac; and to  
Isaac; and to Jacob, <sup>1</sup>Judah and his

and to Judah were born Perez and Ze-  
lamar; and to Perez was born Hez-

and to Hezron, Ram;  
and to Ram was born Amminadab;

Amminadab, Nahshon; and to Nah-

Salmon;  
and to Salmon was born Boaz by Ra-

and to Boaz was born Obed by Ruth;

Obed, Jesse;

and to Jesse was born David the king.

And to David was born Solomon by her  
who had been the wife of Uriah;

and to Solomon was born Rehoboam;

and to Rehoboam, Abijah; and to Abijah,

and to Asa was born Jehoshaphat; and

Jehoshaphat, Joram; and to Joram, U-

and to Uziah was born Jotham; and

Jotham, Ahaz; and to Ahaz, Hezekiah;

and to Hezekiah was born Man-

Manasseh, Amen; and

that which has been <sup>1</sup>conceived in her is of  
the Holy Spirit.

21 "And she will bear a Son; and you shall  
call His name Jesus, for it is He who shall

save His people from their sins."

22 Now all this took place that what was  
spoken by the Lord through the prophet

might be fulfilled, saying.

23 "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH  
CHILD, AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND SHALL

CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which  
translated means, "God with us."

24 And Joseph arose from his sleep, and  
did as the angel of the Lord commanded him,

and took her as his wife,

25 and kept her a virgin until the birth  
to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.

Now after Jesus was born

and was in the days

of His infancy

and was called Jesus

and was called Jesus

and was called Jesus

# THE THREE WISE MEN

LOS REYES MAGOS

MELCHIOR

CASPAR

BALTHAZAR



GOLD

FRANKINCENSE

MYRRH

[WWW.CAMBRIDGE.ES](http://WWW.CAMBRIDGE.ES)

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Magi from **the east** came to Jerusalem.

Matthew 2:1

<sup>23</sup> So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. <sup>24</sup> After he drove the man out, he placed **on the east side of the Garden of Eden** cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

Genesis 3:23-24

<sup>16</sup> So Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, **east of Eden**.

Genesis 4:16

Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. <sup>2</sup> As people moved **eastward**, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

Genesis 11:1-2







# Parthian Empire



**Ruins of  
Parthian Temple  
Complex,  
Hatra, Iraq**

<http://www.humanhistoryinbrief.net/2016/10/parthian-empire.html>

<https://stevenmcollins.com/king-herod-and-roman-parthian-politics-before-the-birth-of-christ>





Babylonian tablet of King Melishipak I (1186–1172 BC). The crescent moon represents the god Sin, the Sun the Shamash and the star the goddess Ishtar.

“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.**”

Matthew 2:2

<sup>8</sup>At this time some astrologers came forward and **denounced the Jews.**

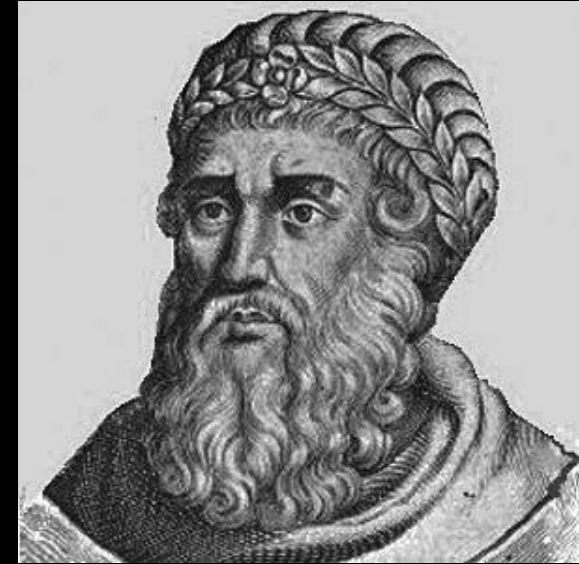
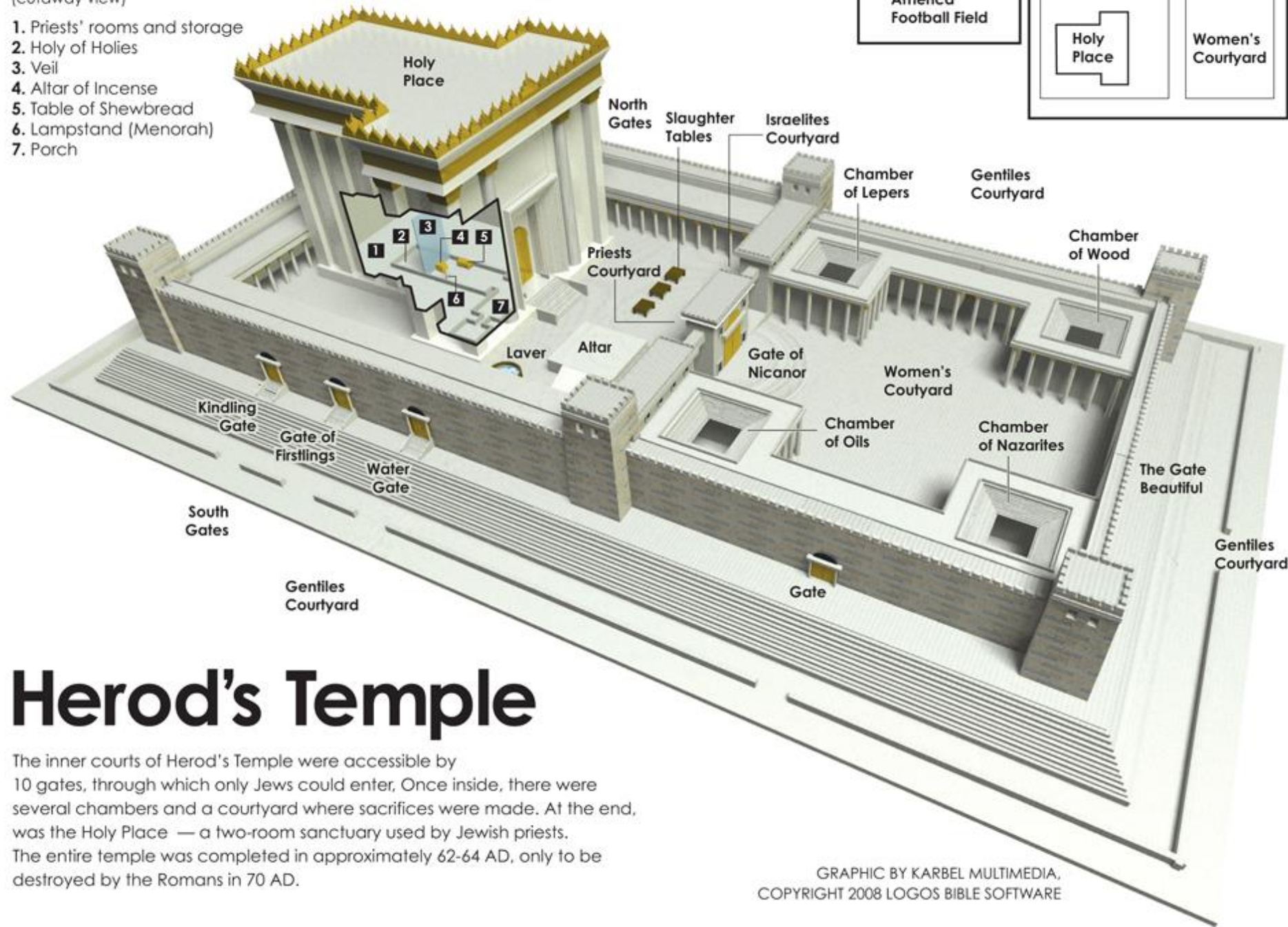
Daniel 3:8



## INSIDE THE HOLY PLACE

(cutaway view)

1. Priests' rooms and storage
2. Holy of Holies
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Table of Shewbread
6. Lampstand (Menorah)
7. Porch



“King of the Jews”

# Herod's Temple

The inner courts of Herod's Temple were accessible by 10 gates, through which only Jews could enter. Once inside, there were several chambers and a courtyard where sacrifices were made. At the end, was the Holy Place — a two-room sanctuary used by Jewish priests. The entire temple was completed in approximately 62-64 AD, only to be destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD.

<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 2:9

<sup>21</sup> By day the LORD **went ahead of them** in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. <sup>22</sup> Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

Exodus 13:21-22



and they bowed down and worshiped him.

Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of **gold**, **frankincense** and **myrrh**.  
Matthew 2:11.





<sup>21</sup> Solomon covered the inside of the temple with pure **gold**, and he extended gold chains across the front of the inner sanctuary, which was overlaid with **gold**. <sup>22</sup> So he overlaid the whole interior with **gold**. He also overlaid with **gold** the altar that belonged to the inner sanctuary. 1 Kings 6:20-22

<sup>34</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “Take fragrant spices.....and pure **frankincense**, all in equal amounts, <sup>35</sup> and make a fragrant blend of incense, the work of a perfumer. It is to be salted and pure and sacred. <sup>36</sup> Grind some of it to powder and place it in front of the ark of the covenant law in the tent of meeting, where I will meet with you. It shall be most holy to you. Exodus 30: 34-36

<sup>22</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, <sup>23</sup> “Take the following fine spices: 500 shekels of liquid **myrrh**.... <sup>25</sup> Make these into a sacred anointing oil, a fragrant blend, the work of a perfumer. It will be the sacred anointing oil. <sup>26</sup> Then use it to anoint the tent of meeting, the ark of the covenant law, <sup>27</sup> the table and all its articles, the lampstand and its accessories, the altar of incense, <sup>28</sup> the altar of burnt offering and all its utensils, and the basin with its stand. Exodus 30:22a, 25-28

<sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “**Out of Egypt I called my son.**”

Matthew 2:15

“When Israel was a child, I loved him,  
and **out of Egypt I called my son.**

Hosea 11:1



<sup>17</sup> Then what was said through the prophet  
Jeremiah was fulfilled:

<sup>18</sup> “A voice is heard in Ramah,  
weeping and great mourning,  
Rachel weeping for her children  
and refusing to be comforted,  
because they are no more.”

Matthew 2:17-18

<sup>15</sup> This is what the LORD says:

“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
mourning and great weeping,  
Rachel weeping for her children  
and refusing to be comforted,  
because they are no more.”

Jeremiah 31:15



“FOLLOW ME”



<sup>19</sup> “Come, **follow me**,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” <sup>20</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him. Matthew 4:19-20

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “**Follow me**,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him. Matthew 9:9

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and **follow me**. Matthew 16:24

<sup>28</sup> Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have **followed me** will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Matthew 19:28

The Magi decided to leave the comforts of their land, their culture, their familiar surroundings to follow a strange star. They travelled thousands of miles with expensive gifts to worship Jesus.

How willing are we to leave the comforts that we know, the life we are familiar with, the presuppositions we carry, the baggage of past hurts, the control we want to have over our lives to go on a journey of faith to worship Christ Jesus?



I believe in the kingdom come  
Then all the colors will bleed into one  
Bleed into one  
But yes I'm still running  
You broke the bonds  
And you loosed the chains  
Carried the cross  
Of my shame  
Oh my shame  
You know I believe it  
But I still haven't found what I'm looking for

U2



WHERE IS  
**RAYMOND KOH?**

T H E J O S H U A T R E E

What did the Magi really understand about the birth of Jesus?

I don't need to know everything to follow Jesus. I just need to know enough.



I will only follow Jesus if.....





<https://blog.solidsignal.com/news/truth-in-advertising-flashlights/>



Why did the teachers of the law not go to Bethlehem?

Those who are near often do not see. Those who are far do.

**Going to Church doesn't  
mean you're a Christian**



**It just means  
You Go To Church.**



Stop

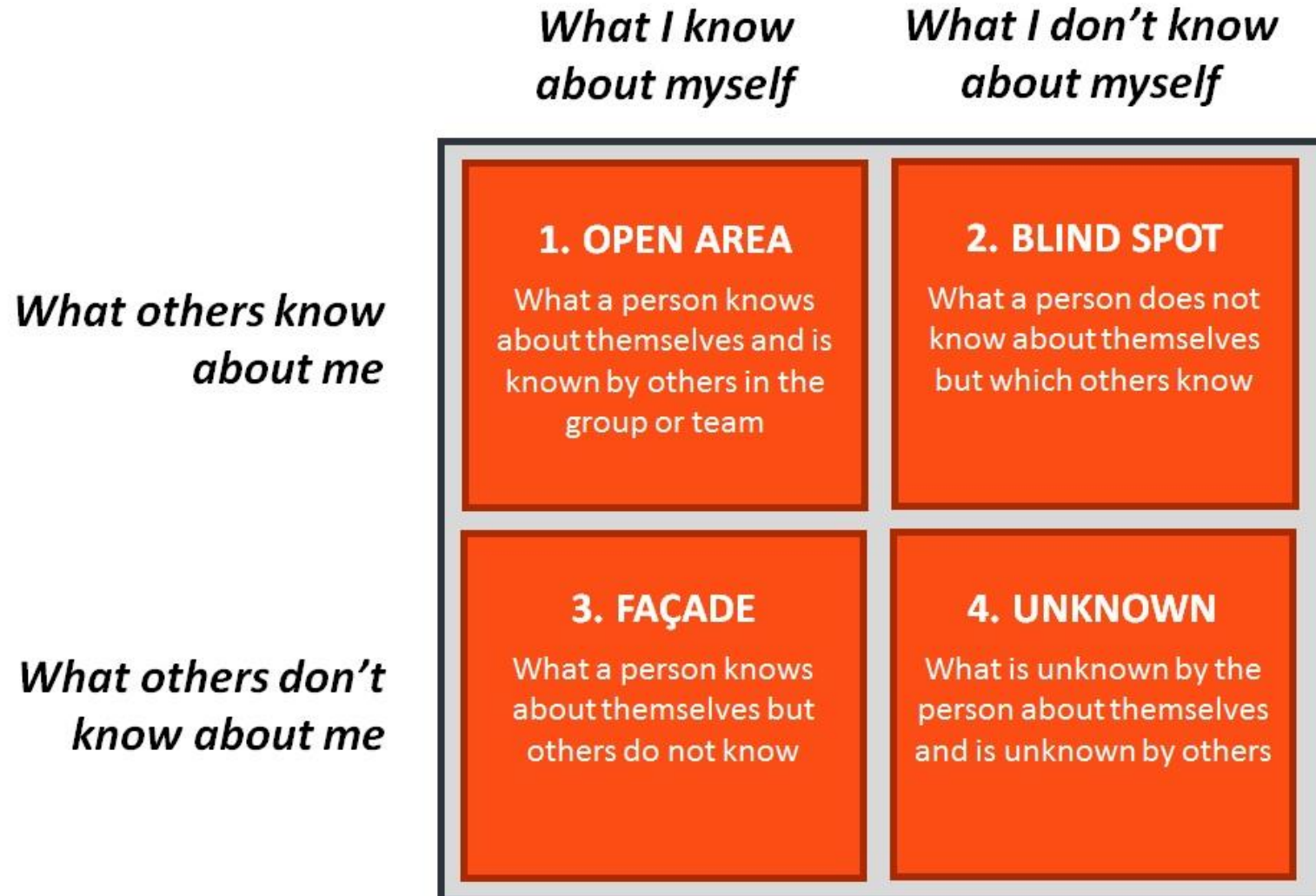
Pause

**LOOK UP**

A person stands on a grassy hill, their back to the camera, with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or surrender. They are wearing a light-colored tank top and dark pants. The landscape is a vast, rolling hillside covered in golden-brown grass, leading up to a range of distant, hazy mountains. The sky is filled with soft, warm light from a low sun, creating a golden glow over the entire scene. The clouds are wispy and catch the light, adding to the serene atmosphere.

“I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.” –Psalm 121:1 ESV

# The Johari Window





- Ask yourself what are you willing to leave behind to follow Jesus
- We don't need to know everything to follow Jesus. We just need to know enough.
- Those who are near often do not see. Those who are far do.
- Stop. Pause. Look up.




“FOLLOW ME”

“THEREFORE GO”









LORD, our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory  
in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> Through the praise of children and infants  
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,  
to silence the foe and the avenger.

<sup>3</sup> When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
which you have set in place,

<sup>4</sup> what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them?

Psalms 8:1-4



## **Mazmur 8:1-5**

Ya Tuhan, Tuhan kami... Betapa mulianya Nama-Mu di seluruh bumi

*(LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth)*

Keagungan Mu yang mengatasi langit dinyanyikan

*(You have set your glory in the heavens)*

Dari mulut bayi-bayi dan anak-anak yang menyusu

*(Through the praise of children and infants)*

telah Kau letakkan dasar kekuatan kerana lawan-Mu

*(You have established a stronghold against your enemies)*

Untuk membungkamkan musuh dan pendendam

*(to silence the foe and the avenger)*





Jika aku melihat langit Mu, buatan jari-Mu

*(When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers)*

Bulan dan bintang-bintang yang Kau tempatkan

*(the moon and the stars which You have set in place)*

Apakah manusia sehingga Engkau mengingatnya

*(What is mankind that you are mindful of them)*

Apakah anak manusia sehingga Engkau mengindahkannya

*(Human beings that you care for them? And crowned them with glory and honor)*





## Natal hari Natal

Natal hari Natal, Yesus telah lahir

*(Christmas day, Jesus is born)*

Natal hari Natal, Yesus telah datang

*(Christmas day, Jesus has come)*

Selamat hari Natal kepada sekalian

*(Merry Christmas to all)*

Sekiranya anda aman Sentosa

*(When you're peaceful)*

Sukacita penuhi hati mu

*(Gladness fills your heart)*

Sang Raja dari syurga telah datang

*(The King from heaven has come)*



“FOLLOW ME”