

KIDZONE

SPY REPORT ON JESUS 11

All this year we have had Spy Training in Kid Zone. This time, be a spy yourself! Find the answers to three questions about this story?

Who rejected the baby Jesus?

Who neglected to go and find him?

Who accepted him as King and worshipped him with their gifts?

WHO IS REALLY GREAT?

Herod was such a powerful king that he has always been called Herod the GREAT. He was so jealous of anyone who wanted to become king instead of him that he had them killed. He even killed two of his sons and other relatives, too.

One day there was great excitement in Jerusalem. Some wisemen arrived looking for a new king. They had seen a new star rising in the eastern sky that told them a king had been born in the land of the Jews. It was the talk of the whole city.

Straight away King Herod was suspicious. Where was this king? He wanted to kill him too, but he pretended to be friendly.

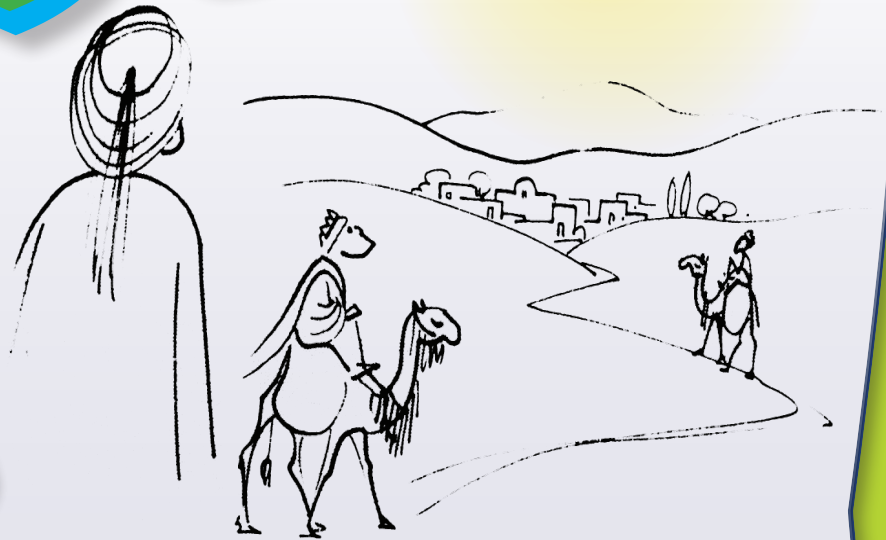
He questioned the wisemen. Then he called the scribes who looked after the old scrolls.

"The old scroll Micah says that one day a great king will be born in Bethlehem," the scribes explained.

But the scribes were so busy with their old scrolls that they never went to Bethlehem to find the king for themselves.

King Herod smiled cunningly and said to the wisemen: "Go to Bethlehem and look for the king. Then come back and tell me where he is. I want to worship him too."

This was a lie. He really wanted to kill the baby.



The star showed the wisemen the way to the house in Bethlehem where the baby Jesus was. How surprised Mary and Joseph, Jesus' parents were when the wisemen worshipped the baby as the King with precious gifts of gold, lovely smelling frankincense and myrrh.

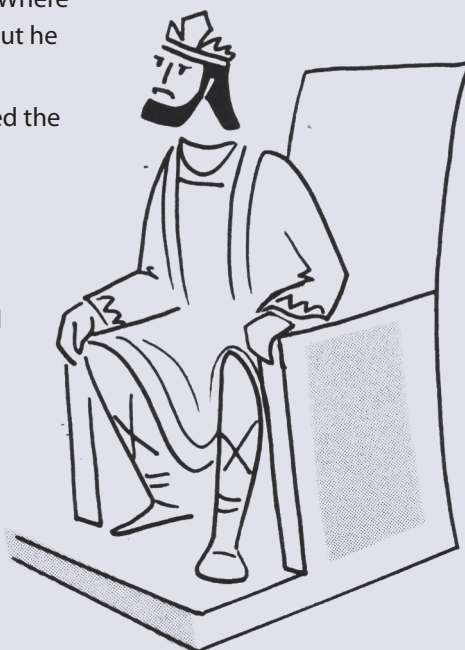
God warned the wisemen in a dream not to go back to King Herod but to go home another way. God also warned Joseph in a dream to leave Bethlehem and escape to Egypt, because King Herod would try to kill the baby Jesus.

Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus got away just in time. King Herod was very angry that the wisemen had tricked him and not come back. He ordered his soldiers to kill all the baby boys in Bethlehem who were under two years old. Many families in

Bethlehem were very sad when this happened.

Back then King Herod the GREAT was very powerful and Jesus, the Son of God, was just a helpless baby. But now at Christmas Jesus is worshipped throughout the whole world. Hardly anyone knows anything about King Herod, except that he tried to kill the baby Jesus. King Herod is just a bad memory. So who is really GREAT?

Be a Spy. Investigate the story for yourself. It is filed under Matthew 2:1 – 18 in the Bible.



TOP SECRET SPY REPORT

BE a SPY!

Use the words and pictures below to fill in the gaps in this little poem:

H _ _ _ _ _ with his s _ _ _ _ _
r _ _ _ _ _ ,
The s _ _ _ _ _ with their
s _ _ _ _ _ n _ _ _ _ _ ,
The w _ _ _ _ _ with their g _ _ _ _ _
a _ _ _ _ _ ,
Our S _ _ _ _ _ , L _ _ _ _ _ and
K _ _ _ _ _ .

The words:

accepted, Herod, King, Lord, neglected, rejected, Saviour, scribes, wisemen.



Copy the poem into your Top Secret Spy Notebook or onto your Computer file as your Spy Report.

TOP SECRET VERSE

BE a SPY!

Use this code breaker to work out some of the words in this verse.

	1	2	3	4
A	T	E	G	Y
B	L	R	I	D
C	M	H	A	S
D	W	N	K	U

Lord God C3 B1 C1 B3 A3 C2 A1 A4 how
A3 B2 A2 C3 A1 and wonderful are your
B4 A2 A2 B4 C4!

D3 B3 D2 A3 of the nations how B2 B3 A3 C2 A1
and A1 B2 D4 A2 are your D1 C3 A4 C4!

To check your answer look up Revelation 15:3 in a Good News Bible. Copy the verse into your Top Secret Notebook or onto your computer file and learn it.

SPY TRAINING CERTIFICATE

If you have done all (or most!) of the Kid Zone pages this year, congratulations! You deserve a certificate. Copy this one, write your name on it and hang it up. Well done!

KID ZONE

CERTIFICATE

is presented to :



congratulations
fellow
spy!

Make a Christmas Stained Glass Window

You will need some black paper or card, some old Christmas cards, coloured cellophane paper, blu-tak, glue or sellotape and scissors.

Cut the window frame from the black card or paper. Make it either square or rounded at the top. Use strips of black card or paper to divide it into window panes, if you want to. Stick a piece or pieces of coloured cellophane paper to cover this. If you are using sellotape to stick it, try to hide the sellotape behind the black window frames so it can't be seen. Cut out pictures from old Christmas cards and stick these onto the cellophane paper. Use blu-tak to attach your window to the glass of a window of your house where the light will shine through it.



A PRAYER

Thank you God for sending your Son Jesus to be a baby at Bethlehem. Please help me to be like the Wisemen and worship you this Christmas. Thank you that Jesus really is a great King.

In the name of Jesus Amen.