

1

Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the time when Herod Soon afterwards, some men who studied the stars came from the east to Jerusalem "Where is the baby born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came u east, and we have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard about this, he was very upset, and so was everyone else in called together all the chief priests and the teachers of the Law and asked them, "Wl Messiah be born?" "In the town of Bethlehem in Judea," they answered. "For this is prophet wrote: *Bethlehem in the land of Judah, you are by no means the least of th cities of Judah; for from you will come a leader who will guide my people* Is

So Herod called the visitors from the east to a secret meeting and found out from the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem with these instructions: "Go and make a careful search for the child, and when you find him, let me know, so that I too may go and worship him."

And so they left, and on their way they saw the same star they had seen in the east. When they saw it, how happy they were, what joy was theirs! It went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. They went into the house, and when they saw the child with his mother Mary, they knelt down and worshipped him. They brought out their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, and presented them to him. Then they returned to their country by another road, since God had warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod.

Luke2:1-12.



2

A MODERN-DAY 'ASTROLOGIST' FINDS THE LORD...

Read the true story of a woman who had an experience like the magi:



'The grace of a restless, searching heart is great indeed, for our Lord guarantees that he who seeks, finds. Before I loved him, he loved me first and gave me a heart burning to know the answers to all the big questions:

Who are we? Why are we here? What does life mean? What does suffering mean?

I began to study astrology.. in a few years I was doing astrology professionally... I began to take yoga classes... Ever restless and hungry and unsatisfied, I then moved on to Buddhism... Many of us in the West are strongly attracted to Eastern religions because the "guru" seems to satisfy a need for a father.

I was a Buddhist for five years. I meditated and meditated (and am grateful for having learned how to sit still), but I found no peace, and the guru of the Buddhists I had joined had died.

Finally, in an act of spiritual desperation, one day on a walk I prayed. My prayer was something like this: **"Is anyone there? I need help. Everything I have tried-astrology, yoga, the occult, therapy, Buddhism-has failed. In each case I have followed a path faithfully only to reach a dead end, a closed door, a big NO. Please help me."**

The Lord knew I was at last ready to hear him. Soon after, I was reading an interesting article in a magazine. The author's name was Thomas Molnar...The scales dropped from my eyes as he showed me that the entire project of the occult, of the New Age... is simply power.

I concluded that God is my real, true Father; that he had given me life and all blessings and he was the One I was supposed to give myself away to, and that he loved me even during the time I had spurned him.

Since coming into the Church at the Easter vigil of 1992, I have never been so deeply happy. My restless heart is resting, my questions are answered.

Like the Magi astrologers, I came to worship at the Crib and left astrology behind.'

By Lucy Tucker [Excerpts from 'To the Edge of the Abyss' 'This Rock' May 1998]



3

Read what the Church says:

"All forms of divination are to be rejected: recourse to Satan or demons, conjuring up the dead, or other practices falsely supposed to 'unveil' the future.

Consulting horoscopes, astrology, palm reading, interpretation of omens and lots, the phenomena of clairvoyance, and recourse to mediums all conceal a desire for power...

They contradict the honor, respect, and loving fear that we owe to God alone"

(CCC 2116).

