

Presenter: Ladies and Gentlemen, boys and girls, The Prophets Minor present....

The Three Wise Men...get a little bit wiser

For the last four months, our three, intrepid, wise men have been in search of a newborn king. They have been led by a particularly bright star, from the east, which has finally brought them to the walls of Jerusalem. This is the City of David, snuggled up in the mountains of Judea. Approaching the city gate, the excitement grows as they anticipate reaching the end of their journey.

Wise man 1: This seems to be the place.

Wise man 2: Not a very big city, is it!

Wise man 1: No, but it has a king resident here... in a palace.

Wise man 3: Just what we're looking for. What?

Wise man 1: What?

Wise man 2: What?

Wise man 1: Quite. Just the place.

Presenter: At the entrance to the city the wise men look for someone who can direct them to the palace.

Wise man 1: I say, madam, can you tell us where the palace is?

Woman: You don't want to go there!

Wise man 2: Oh, but we do!

Woman: Not if you know what's good for you, you don't. (walks off)

Wise man 3: Funny woman! Here's someone else, ask them.

Wise man 1: Excuse me, my good man. I wonder if you could tell me where the royal palace is?

Man: Who are you?

Wise man 1: We are three wise men who have travelled from afar...

Man: From Afar? Never heard of it.

Wise man 1: Yes. Well. Anyway. That is to say...we've come to welcome the new king that has just been born.

Man: New king? Here? You can keep me out of this. (runs away)

Wise man 2: That's a bit rum!

Wise man 3: Johnny foreigner! What?

Wise man 2: What?

Wise man 1: What?

Wise man 3: I say, there's a sign over there saying the royal palace this way. Come on, almost there now!

(Wise man 3 knocks on the door)

Butler: Yes, can I help you?

Wise man 3: Is this the palace of King Herod?

Butler: It is.

Wise man 3: And who are you my good man?

Butler: I am His Majesty King Herod's personal butler. What can I do for you?

Wise man 3: We've come to welcome the new king.

Butler: The NEW king! Indeed!

Wise man 2: Rather! We've come a long way to see him.

Butler: Ahh.

Wise man 1: We've been following that bright star in the sky and it's brought us here.

Wise man 2: It was the obvious place to look for the new king...in a palace. What?

Wise man 1: What?

Wise man 3: What?

Butler: Yes, I see. Well, gentlemen, you had better come in then.

Wise man 2: Right ho!

End of first part of drama.

The second part of drama begins. Perhaps at some point in the sermon.

Presenter: After a deeply uncomfortable few hours in the presence of King Herod, his ministers and servants. Our three wise men have been told they have come to the wrong place.

Butler: You have come to the wrong place.

Wise man 1: Ah.

Presenter: They needed to go to Bethlehem, where it was thought the new king would have been born.

Butler: Bethlehem.

Wise man 1: Right.

Presenter: They were a bit peeved by this as they had passed Bethlehem on their way to Jerusalem and it looked a rather small and flea-bitten village. Not the sort of place for a royal birth.

Wise man 1: Rum show what?

Wise man 2: What?

Wise man 3: What?

Wise man 1: That butler, fella, was a shifty looking chap. Could barely look any decent man in the eye!

Wise man 2: And that King Herod...what a frightful cad!

Wise man 3: Not the sort of fella they would have allowed into the club!

Wise man 2: He didn't seem at all interested in jolly along with us to see this new-born king.

Wise man 3: Perhaps he was nervous. Competition, and all that...

Wise man 1: Maybe, but I'm beginning to wonder if our journey hasn't been a total waste of time.

Wise man 2: Cheer up, old man. We chose to follow the star, and we can only go where it leads us. Besides, they did tell us we would find the new-born king in Bethlehem.

Wise man 3: I remember when we passed Bethlehem coming to Jerusalem. Surely, no self-respecting king would allow himself to be born in a place like that!

Wise man 2: Perhaps the truth is that God is showing us a different sort of king.

Wise man 1: A different sort of king? What on earth do you mean?

Wise man 2: Well, let's go and see. It's on our way home anyway. What harm can it do?

Wise man 3: Good show! It all seems a bit thick to me, but I suppose there's no harm in seeing for ourselves before heading home. What?

Wise man 2: What?

Wise man 1: What?

Presenter: And so our intrepid threesome resolve to continue their journey to Bethlehem...and an encounter with the One who calls us all to follow His star.