



THIS WAS THE view on U.S. 41 and Main Street in Sebree on Saturday, shortly after the snow began. Conditions worsened throughout the day on Saturday, and sleet and additional snow on Saturday night and Sunday kept driving conditions treacherous throughout the entire Tri-State.

A Trip Across The Desert

By Van Yandell

Matthew 2: 13 "And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him."

We are told in the scripture (Matthew 2), when Jesus was born in Bethlehem, a star appeared to wise men in the east. Those wise men saw the star and followed it to Jerusalem seeking the Christ child.

"In the east" may have been in Israel or it may have been in the country we today know as Jordan or Iran (Persia or Babylon). Considering their gifts, the wise men may possibly have come from Arabia.

Many have attempted to provide natural phenomenon such as a gathering of planets, to explain the star. This writer believes the star was a special, supernatural, one-time appearing object to guide the wise men to Jesus.

Matthew 2: 9 states

emphatically the star "went before them and stood over the place where the child was."

A celestial gathering of stars or planets would not have done this. The only reasonable explanation is that God provided the "star" for a guide.

I also am inclined to think the "guiding star" was in the atmosphere and not a star since we know stars to be light years away from earth.

In Jerusalem they enquired, "Where is He that is born King of the Jews for we have seen His star?" Becoming aware of this, the king of Israel, Herod, was "troubled."

Sending for the priests and scribes

Herod asked "Where is this king to be born?"

They answered his question with an Old Testament prophesy, Micah 5: 2. The king was to be born in Bethlehem.

Herod then sent the wise men to Bethlehem

to find the child and return to him so he could go and worship Him as well.

His ruse was intercep-

ted by a dream in which the wise men were told of Herod's

plan to kill the child and to "return to their

own land by another

route."

The trip from Je-

rusalem (Bethlehem

is southeast about six

miles) to Egypt would

have been a very difficult journey. Since Mary had recently given birth to our Jesus and was nursing and caring for Him the conditions of the desert would have been excruciating.

We crossed that same Saini Peninsula in an air conditioned bus. I well remember watching the blowing sand with the road appearing almost molten. Road graders were placed along the highway at intervals because the drifting sand had to often be removed.

Scripture tells us

they traveled "by night"

and many assume that

was to be in hiding. Be-

ing partially the case,

the daytime conditions

would have been too

harsh for foot travel.

We do not know how

long their journey took

or where they lived for

two years in Egypt. The

distance from Rafah

to Cairo is a little over

225 miles. Rafah is on

the border of Israel and

Egypt. The distance to

Jerusalem is about 60

miles from Rafah mak-

ing their journey al-

most 300 miles.

We also are not told

where exactly in Egypt

they stayed for two

years. Their place of

refuge was most likely

in the Nile River delta

area since the rest of

Egypt is desert and not

suitable for human habi-

tation.

As extensive as the

Holy Bible is, it leaves

out a lot of the details. I suppose however it would have to be in volumes to answer even a part of our inquiries.

I've often wondered what the baby Jesus awareness may have been. The scripture tells us He was God in human form and the creator of all things (John 1: 1-3).

Therefore is it rea-

sonable to think Jesus

may have been aware as

an infant of what was

happening?

Research shows that

the unborn fetus hears

and responds to sounds

outside the womb, such

as language, music and

loud sudden sounds.

Expectant mothers

have often reported at

sudden noises, their baby

moved within them.

A woman may

not have the voice of an

angel but her baby will

love to hear her sing.

I can't avoid think-

ing Jesus was aware of

His final destination,

the cross of Calvary,

during His lifetime. In

such a case, Jesus' suf-

fering would have been

the mental anguish of

knowing His final hours

before death would be

nailed to a cross.

The sacrifice by God

Jesus is so much more

than we at times can

begin to comprehend.

For two years in Egypt

and three years in His

earthly ministry, Jesus

was a homeless person.

Luke 9: 58 "And Je-

sus said unto him, foxes

have holes, and birds of

the air have nests; but the Son of man hath no where to lay his head."

We normally envi-

sion Jesus' suffering

to be on the cross and

of course that was the

ultimate sacrifice for

the souls of mankind.

His shed blood and suf-

fering gives us eternity

and all He asks of us is

to believe (John 3: 16).

To even begin to

comprehend His an-

guish (Psalm 22), we

must begin at His in-

fantile years and possi-

bly at His conception.

We must also consider

the suffering of Mary

and Joseph in order to

be the earthly parents

of our Savior. They

were foreigners in the

strange land Egypt.

God of course, pro-

vided for them during

those two years but

what did Joseph do for

his families' survival

during that time? The

life of Jesus and His parents is a witness of a supernatural presence.

A trip across the des-

ert was just the begin-

ning. What an ordeal!

For their existence to

have been placed in

such an inhospitable

place was a part of the

misery they endured.

And of course, after the

two years they had to

cross that same desert

to return home.

Never under esti-

mate the unpleasant

existence of that family

and our glorious Sav-

ior. Thankful is a place

to begin but to realize

and relate to their lives

is an understanding we

must have.

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tired Industrial Arts

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PUBLIC NOTICE

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

28 ST RT 1340
DIXON, KY 42409

INVITATION TO BID

The Webster County Board of Education in Dixon, Kentucky will receive sealed bids for mowing services for January 1, 2026-December 31, 2026. Bids will be received until 2:00 pm, February 6, 2026 at the office of the Superintendent, Dixon, Kentucky, at which time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid specifications may be picked up at the board office in Dixon Monday through Friday, 8:00am-3:30pm. The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Aaron Harrell, Superintendent

1/28c

FOR SALE

6'9" x 9'8"

TRAILER

Wood Floor

Sides Detach To Be Used