



# Thrill of Hope

When Things Don't Make Sense

## Key Scripture

Psalm 31:24 NKJV

Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart, **All you who hope in the Lord.**

## The Search For A King...

Matthew 2:1-12 NIV

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. 5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6 "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel."

## Things we try to make sense out of...

### ✓ **Unexplained Events**

Matthew 2:9-10 NASU

9 After hearing the king, they went their way; and **the star**, which they had seen in the east, went on before them until it came and stood over the place where the Child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

### ✓ **Tragedy**

Matthew 2:16 NLT

16 Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him. **He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, based on the wise men's report of the star's first appearance.**

### ✓ **Corrupt / Sinful Hearts**

Matthew 2:3 NLT

**King Herod was deeply disturbed** when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem.

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## Hope... When Things Don't Make Sense

### 1. **Seek** the Lord in faith.

Matthew 2:8 NKJV

And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "**Go and search carefully for the young Child...**

Isaiah 55:6 NLT

**Seek the Lord while you can find Him.** Call on Him now while He is near.

### 2. **Come** into the house of the Lord.

Matthew 2:11a NASU

**After coming into the house** they saw the Child with Mary His mother;

Psalm 122:1 NKJV

I was glad when they said to me, **Let us go into the house of the Lord.**

### 3. **Worship** the Lord with all you are.

Matthew 2:11b NASU

**...they fell to the ground and worshiped Him.** Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:7-8 NLT

7 Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. 8 Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, **come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!**"

John 4:24 NKJV

God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must **worship in spirit and truth.**

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