

A script from



“A Seeker Trilogy”

by
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- What** Three seekers have different motives for finding the prophesied newborn Messiah. **Themes:** Christmas, Prophecy, Wise Men, Messiah
- Who** Herod
Priest
Wise Man
- When** Biblical Times, though actors wear modern clothes
- Wear (Props)** Herod should be dressed in a suit, or dress shirt and pants
Priest should be nicely dressed
Wise Man can wear simple casual clothes
- Why** Matthew 2:1-11
- How** If you have the ability, use lighting to light each actor during their monologue. When one actor is finished with his monologue, the light fades and rises on the next. If you have only one spot lit on stage, simply fade the light, switch out actors and raise the light again.
- Be careful not to overact. Find focal points in the audience to indicate you're speaking to one person. This script may also be filmed.
- Time** Approximately 5 minutes

Herod

He wears a coat and tie and speaks with a thick Southern accent, an "oily" Southern politician. We catch him, mid-conversation, as he is about to send off the wise men on their search for the baby.

I really appreciate you traveling all this way just to inquire about this baby. I, myself, was not familiar with this...this story about a "baby king". So I've consulted my religious experts and they have, indeed, verified your story. Apparently, there's something in their holy book about a "baby king" that's supposed be born in a little town called Bethlehem.

Now, I have instructed my servants to outfit you with supplies. I would love for you to travel to this village and locate this baby. And when you locate him, I would love for you to come back here and tell me the good news ...that there is, indeed a baby king in Bethlehem. I would go with you, but I have important things here to attend to. But, if you do locate him, I fully intend to come join you, so that I can...worship this child, along with you.

A Baby King...that's just fascinating, now, isn't it?

As he escorts them to the door.

Thank you so much for coming. Good luck on your little search.

Calls out the door to them.

Oh...by the way...let's just keep this between you and me, why don't we? We wouldn't want to create too much of a stir, now would we?

He now speaks directly to the audience, as if they are his assembled "flunkies." His tone is now harsh and angry, with his violence now obvious

I want somebody here to follow those foreigners. I want you to find that baby.

(Answering a question) No, I'm **not** gonna worship him! Why would I worship anybody?! Y'all hear me good: We are **not** gonna worship this baby. We're gonna kill the little Pretender! If what these religious crazies say is true...if this baby is supposed to grow up and be some sort of "King" then we need to do something about it before he gets big enough to cause trouble. I will not have some...some ignorant commoner growing up to ruin my jurisdiction. Now, y'all go do your job. Find this baby, and get rid of him.

Priest

A religious scholar, with an English accent, pontificates on the birth of the Messiah. He speaks to the audience, as to one person, who has asked him about his advice to Herod about the location of the Messiah's birth.

Well, of course, I was all too happy to be of assistance. It's not every day that a humble religious servant is asked to advise a high government official. *(With somewhat fake humility)* But, I must say, I **did** have... "particular knowledge" on the subject of his interest... the exact location of the birthplace of the Messiah. It was a very simple question, really. Our scriptures are quite clear on the subject.

Of course, all of us scholars have debated the... the details of the prophecy for years and years. It's actually one of our favorite intellectual games, challenging one another on the prophetic details about the Messiah. Many a night we've all gotten together and batted the subject around over a good meal and a bottle of wine. But, in the end, it's quite unequivocal: The Messiah is to be born in Bethlehem, the City of David.

So, that, of course, is what we told Herod. "If you want to go worship this... this Messiah, you'll find him in Bethlehem."

He is interrupted by the question "Did you go to Bethlehem to see the child?"

Oh my heavens, no. Go to Bethlehem? You mean... ourselves? Go to this little village? No... no. Worshipping in some back-water town is a bit... uh... beneath our dignity. That's the sort of thing that... that lower classes would do.

No, we're quite fine here, in the city, discussing all of these things.

And, obviously, our knowledge has been helpful. We've passed our knowledge on to the authorities. I'm sure they'll take care of everything.

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A Wise Man

A man, with either a Middle Eastern or Eastern European accent, speaks directly to the audience, as to one person. He takes his time to very simply relate his story.

There are no words. No words. I... *(at a loss for words)*

All those years I looked...I searched...for...for what was good. What was right. I looked for what was true. All those years. I didn't know what it was. I just knew that I was supposed to find it. Like a needle in a haystack. This whole wide world to look in.

(After a long pause) We followed a star. I can't tell you why. It was...the right thing. Many months, we followed. It led us to Jerusalem, the city of the Jews. And from there, it led to a small town. We were told it was the village of the King. The King of the Jews.

This was...beyond my understanding, this knowledge...a King in this small village.

But, we went...to this needle...in this haystack of a village.

And there was a woman. And a small child. A boy, maybe a year old. He was sitting in his mother's lap. His eyes followed me as I walked up. I sat on the ground, in front of him. His eyes never left mine.

And...there are no words. *(A long pause)*

All that is true I saw in that boy. All that is right.

And I worshipped him. It was all that I could do.