

东方来的智者

Wise Men from the East

“主显节”宴会是在一月六日晚上，也就是在圣诞节¹后第1-2天的晚上举办。这个节日所庆贺的是“耶稣是上帝之子”这一事实透露给了那三位智者，或叫做东方三博士的人。他们曾朝拜婴孩耶稣，并向他献上了黄金、乳香和没药。由于他们不是犹太人，所以这一举动就成了一个征兆：耶稣被上帝派到世上来做各地万民的救主²，而不仅仅是来拯救犹太人的。“主显节”就是庆贺这个征兆。

The feast of the Epiphany occurs on the evening of January 6, the twelfth day after Christmas. Its name means “appearance” or “manifestation,” and it celebrates the day when Jesus was revealed as the Son of God to the wise men, or magi. When the magi adored the infant Jesus and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, it was taken as a sign, because they were Gentiles, that Jesus was sent as the Savior of all men everywhere, not only the Jews.



希律作王的时候，耶稣诞生在犹太的伯利恒城。有几个智者从东方来到耶路撒冷，问：“那出生要作犹太人的王的在哪里？我们在东方看见了他的星，特地来朝拜他。”

这时候，他们在东方看见的那颗明星又出现了，并在前面引导他们，一直来到小孩子出生地方的上面才停住。他们看见那颗明星，真是欢欣快乐。



Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east, and are come to worship Him."

And, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary His mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. (The Bible, Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11 KJV.)

他们进了屋子，看到了小孩子和他的母亲马利亚，就俯伏朝拜小孩子，然后打开宝盒，拿出了黄金、乳香、没药等礼物献给他。(选自《圣经》马太福音2：1-2, 9-11 [现])



Many traditions have grown up around the three wise men. The first, who brought gold to the Christ child, is believed by many to have been Caspar, King of Tarsus. The second, who brought frankincense, is thought to have been Melchoir, King of Arabia. The third, who brought myrrh, is supposed to have been Balthazar, King of Sheba.

有很多传统都源于这三位智者。第一位智者，即那位把黄金献给孩子基督的人，据信是塔萨斯³（Tarsus）国王卡斯珀。第二位智者，也就是向耶稣献乳香的智者，一直被认为是阿拉伯王梅尔夸尔。第三位向耶稣献上没药的智者，人们认为他是示巴⁴（Sheba）王巴尔摄沙。

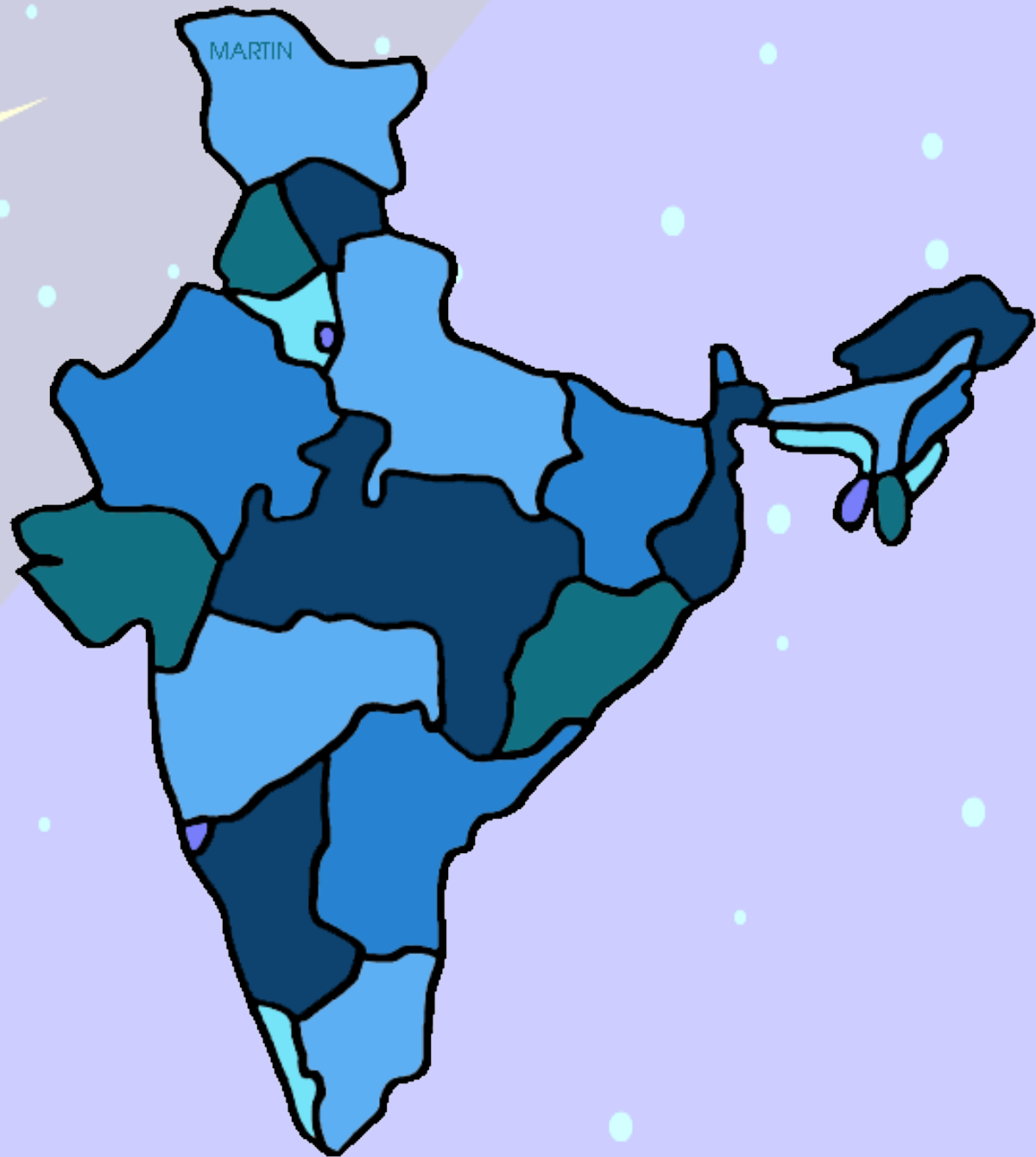


据说，那三位智者在返回到自己的国家后，便辞去了高官，并把自己所有的财宝全都分给了穷人，然后便到各处去对人们宣讲自己所见到的事情。

很多年之后，圣多马⁵旅行到了印度。据说他在印度期间找到了那三位智者。他们依旧在一起，依然对人述说着耶稣诞生的神奇故事。圣多马为他们施洗⁶，任命他们为基督牧师⁷。

Back in their own countries it is said that the wise men resigned their high offices, gave all their riches to the poor, and went about preaching of the things they had seen.

Years later, when St. Thomas was traveling in India, he is reported to have found the three wise men, still together and still telling their wonderful story. St. Thomas baptized and ordained them as Christian priests.



这些都是真的吗？我们无法知道。继福音8的记录之后，有关这三位智者的第一个记录曾被记载在一座教堂里的马赛克壁画上。这座教堂位于意大利的拉文纳，建于六世纪。但是，他们崇拜基督圣婴为全人类的救主，凭借研究星象而知道了耶稣的诞生，这些是证明耶稣所负的使命和所具有的神性的证据。

Is all this true? It's impossible to know. The first record of these men after the Gospel account was on a mosaic in a sixth-century church in Ravenna, Italy. But their adoration of the Christ child as the Savior of mankind, His birth having been revealed to them by their study of the stars, remains one of the proofs of His mission and divinity.



- 1 — 圣诞节--纪念耶稣诞生的节日，日期是在每年十二月二十五日。
- 2 — 救主--人类因为不服从上帝而丧失了永远的生命、爱、快乐等等；耶稣为我们受罚，而使我们能借着相信他而重获这一切。《圣经》尊称他为人类的救主、或弥赛亚、基督，即救主之意。
- 3 — 塔萨斯--古时中东一城，位在现今的土耳其境内。
- 4 — 示巴--古时中东一国，位在现今的沙地阿拉伯境内。
- 5 — 多马--耶稣的十二门徒之一，为人多疑。
- 6 — 施洗--耶稣之前来的先知约翰，劝人悔改，准备接受耶稣，并且让他把他们浸在水里，显示这份悔改之心，这被称为受洗、洗礼等等。他预言耶稣来时，不会用水清洗我们，而是用火和圣灵。结果，耶稣真的赐了圣灵给信他和请求他的人。（请阅马太福音2：11）
- 7 — 牧师--基督教团体的地方性灵性领袖，具有特殊训练、在团体中实行义务或仪式。
- 8 — 福音--有关耶稣和他救赎人类的好消息。