

# **THE STORY OF THE THREE WISE MEN**

*presented by*

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Word of God*

## SCENE 1

## CASPAR'S HOUSE IN BABYLON

Timon                   Hello, I'm Timon. I live here in Babylon with my master, Melchior. He's one of what they call the Magi. He's a really clever man who knows all about the stars and things. He's very rich, and sometimes he gets mistaken for a king. He and the other Magi often go travelling all over the world, and I usually go with them, to look after the camels, make the meals and things. I especially remember one of our adventures a long time ago - let me tell you about it. Once in a far off eastern land on a night so long ago  
A clever man called Melchior was pacing to and fro

Melchior               I've watched the stars for many years and know them all by sight  
Well at least I thought I did until I looked tonight  
There's one new star that dazzles my eyes and makes me wonder why  
This single star outshines by far all others in the sky.

Timon                   He sat and puzzled deeply then suddenly called out

Melchior               I'll need some help if I am ever to figure this thing out  
I know, I'll send for Balthazar and for Caspar too  
I'm sure that al together we'll work out what to do  
Timon go and get my friends as soon as your work is done  
With three wise men, perhaps, why not, aren't three heads wiser than one ?

Timon                   So off I went across the town and told his friends come quick  
But I had to reassure them my master wasn't sick  
When we got back to Melchior's house they gathered in the middle  
And Caspar said

Caspar                  I do believe that I can solve this riddle  
Perhaps it means that very soon there's going to be a birth  
A Prince - no - more - a King - the ruler of the Earth

Timon                   Then Balthazar said

Balthazar               I recall the promise of a star in one old Jewish book  
That meant the coming of a King - we ought to go and look

Timon                   They read and read and read some more until my my master spied  
An ancient Jewish holy scroll

Melchior               That's it, that's it

Timon                   He cried

Melchior See, read, it says a star will come from Jacob - which means the Jews  
Their King will rule the the world in peace, this star brought us the news

Balthazar Quick find a map, we'll have to go and gifts, too, we must bring  
God sent this star we'll follow it and worship this great King.

Timon It's always me who does the work. I hope you realise  
It isn't always easy to gather the supplies  
So off we set into the West - but where to start to look  
The place of birth wasn't written in my master's book.

Caspar We don't know where the King will be, which is quite a pity  
So I suggest we start our search in Israel's biggest city

Balthazar If you mean Jersuaem, where Herod is the King  
We ought to go and see him, it'd be the proper thing

Melchior The route is clear, the light is strong  
I hardly think we can go wrong  
You can even see it in the day  
I never saw a clearer sign to guide us on our way.

## SCENE 2 HEROD'S PALACE

Timon When they reached Jersuaem they went to see the King  
They told him all about the star, the book and everything  
Herod said

Herod If you've come to see the King, well look, for here I stand  
The Romans have put me in charge to rule across this land

Balthazar Sire you are King in Israel - you stand so proud and tall  
But we seek the Prince of Peace and Love - the greatest king of all

Herod There is a prophesy which speaks of one called the Messiah  
To be born in Bethlehem, I beg you go enquire  
And when you find this child, come tell me, see you do  
So I can go to Bethlehem and worship him like you

Timon And so we set off once again still the following the star  
Until we got to Bethlehem, it wasn't very far  
And there our guiding light stood still, the birthplace we had found

Caspar It must be that house over there - the star's shining all around.

Timon I took the reins and waited while those 3 wise men went on  
They entered with their precious gifts from far off Babylon

## SCENE 3

## INSIDE THE STABLE

Timon  
Inside the stable a wondrous sight  
Filled their hearts with great delight  
A babe lay in a wooden manger  
Yet smiled towards these three rich strangers  
His mother said

Mary  
I bid you welcome, tell me what has made you come so far

Balthazar  
Dear Lady we were guided by the brightest star  
We bring gifts for your new-born son, myrrh, frankincense and gold  
To worship here the King of Peace the prophecies foretold

Caspar  
Born a king on Bethlehem plain, gold I bring to crown him again  
King for ever, ceasing never, over us all to reign

Melchior  
Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a deity nigh  
Prayer and praising, all are raising, worship him King most high

Balthazar  
Myrrh is mine, it's bitter perfume, breathes a life of gathering gloom  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying, sealed in a stone-cold tomb

Mary  
I thank you for these wondrous gifts their meaning is quite clear  
This child is both the son of God and my son very dear

Timon  
And so we left but took great care to go a different way  
And not back to Jerusalem wherein great danger lay

Melchior  
I've had a dream my friends in which an angel did appear  
And told me Herod meant to harm the child and we should not go near  
Our task is done, we've seen the king thanks to this wondrous light  
But we must ever keep in mind the child we met tonight

Timon  
Well that's the story of our trip to Israel so many years ago.  
I've often wondered what happened to that little baby. I can't quite remember  
his name - oh that's right, it was Jesus.