

# Glimpses of Messiah's Future

*Read Matthew 2*

Before the Christ child was old enough to do anything on His own, He was already provoking strong reactions from those for Him and against Him. Even as an infant, He was both a cornerstone and a stumbling block, fulfilling the prophecy of Simeon:

*"This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed." (Luke 2:34-35, NIV)*

In Matthew 2 we catch these glimpses of Messiah's future:

1. His own people, who were expecting His coming, generally met Him with ignorance, indifference, or hostility. Instead, He drew individual worshipers, often Gentiles, from far away and from unexpected sources. (Matthew 2:1-12)
2. Christ shared the sufferings of His people, Israel: He fled for His life to Egypt, lived there as a refugee, and was eventually called out by His Father. (Matthew 2:13-15, 19-21)
3. Those nearest to Jesus were frequently pursued, persecuted, and martyred. (Matthew 2:16-18)
4. He identified, not with the powerful and privileged, but with the very lowest and most despised of His people. (Matthew 2:22-23)

Get to know this unique, controversial, intriguing, and intensely personal Son of God and Son of Man.

*Father, You are  
high and holy,  
transcendent and unseen,  
great beyond all imagination.  
Yet in Jesus Christ we see You as a  
real, touchable,  
walking, smiling,  
speaking human being.  
How amazing You are!  
How can we help but love You and  
want to be like You!*

Hymn: [See How God's Flower Blossoms](#)