

14

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

-Matthew 2:1-2



**Because of the prophecies, the wise men knew the location of Jesus' birth: Bethlehem. But have you ever wondered how the wise men knew the timing of Jesus' birth?**

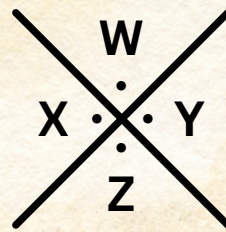
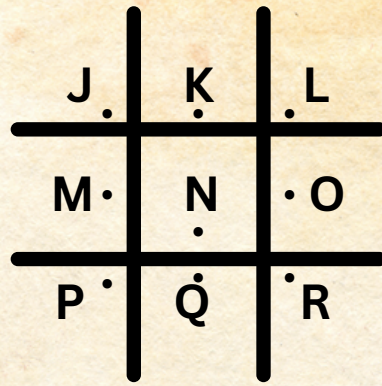
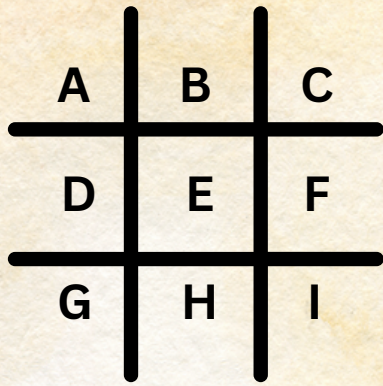
**The answer would require us to dig into several prophecies, so for this 14th day of Advent, let's just scratch the surface of them, and give you a place to begin a prophecy study of your own!**

**Are you familiar with Daniel in the Bible? You may remember him as the one who interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's dreams or the one God saved in the den of lions in Babylon! Daniel was a prophet and the Lord revealed some of the most incredible prophecies to Daniel.**

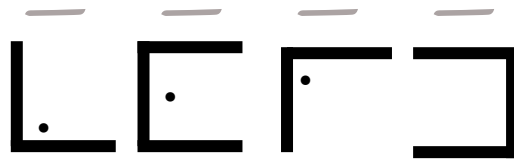
**In Daniel chapter 9, we see a prophecy that gives the exact number of years from the day the Persian king told Israel they could rebuild their temple until the exact day Jesus would have His triumphant entry in Jerusalem on a donkey. They also knew He would be cut off not long after His entry. They knew from 1 Samuel 2:35 that the Messiah would be their High Priest and from Numbers 4:43 that Priest's begin their ministry at 30 years of age. And they knew from Isaiah 9:6 that He would come as a newborn baby! So all the wise men needed to know to discern the general timing of Jesus' birth was an understanding of prophecy! But for them to be called wise, Proverbs 1:7 tells us they also needed to have fear of the Lord.**

**How amazing must it have been to know the prophecies in their day and see them fulfilled in the birth of Jesus?**

**There's one more part of Daniel's prophecy that hasn't happened yet, and Jesus tells us how important it is for us to know Daniel's prophecies too! That we should watch so we know when prophecies are being fulfilled before our eyes! While we are learning about the prophecies of Jesus' birth in this Advent study, I hope this spurs a desire for you to learn more Bible prophecy and read God's Word daily, praying for the Lord to give you wisdom like the wise men.**



USING THE CODE ABOVE, DECIPHER THE SECRET MESSAGE BELOW!



ANSWER: jesus is lord