



‘We Three Kings’ Never Happened, Or Did It?

By Noel Joshua Hadley

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PK is an acronym for Pastor’s Kid and that is what I *was*. When the church doors opened, I was there, planting my bum in the theater chair. Resumes such as that one pretty much qualifies me to make the *following* claim. Some of you are already rolling your eyes, expecting me to say something with the raving eyes of a madman like: “The Bible always used to say *three* wise men and now it doesn’t.” Well, if that’s what you were thinking, then you’re wrong. I wasn’t going to make any such claim. Let me finish a sentence without interruptions for once. Stop making up arguments and then firing back with your rebuttals.

What I was going to say is, the worship leader never could seem to instruct us to turn to ‘We Three Kings’ in the hymnal, it was one page number or another, without an annoyed congregant turning around and telling me: “It never says there were three of them in the Bible. It was three gifts

which they gave. Why must we assume it was only one type of gift per person? They may have been twelve or twenty in number, an entire caravan of them for all we know.” I am paraphrasing, of course. Or am I exaggerating? Conveying frustration is more like it. I would then watch the said person turn around and grudgingly sing along, year after year after year. And so, I would sit there in my chair, a young Noel Joshua Hadley, listening to the words of ‘We Three Kings,’ wondering what else we assume the Bible says but which it doesn’t, like eating unclean animals or swapping the Sabbath to Sunday and doing away with the holy days, replacing it with Easter and Christmas.

Before we get too far into this, here is what the Bible currently has to say regarding the nativity gift bearers. Reading from the King Jimmy.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, **Magi from the east** came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

Matthew 2:1-2 [KJV]

As you can clearly see, there are not three kings arriving from the east. Not even three wise men. They are simply Magi, number unknown. That is precisely how it has always read for me. Nothing has changed. Why am I thinking to include this in a book about the Mandela Effect then? Because it is a curious exercise. Also, there are people out there claiming that it was always a party of three in their recollection. Now, I could sit here and call it a false memory on their part. I could even blame the ‘We Three Kings’ song for their brain malfunction, but why do that? The ME does not victimize everyone evenly and if you’re still thinking otherwise then I am sad to say you have learned little to nothing about the nature of the world we live in. If the Mandela Effect has taught me anything it’s that we are to sit and listen to other people’s personal experiences and not bulldoze them over as if our informed reality is the end-all.

The [Persians](#) under [Khosrau II](#) invaded [Palestine](#) and [conquered nearby Jerusalem](#) in 614, but they did not destroy the structure. According to legend, their commander [Shahrbaraz](#) was moved by the depiction above the church entrance of the [Three Magi](#) wearing the garb of Persian [Zoroastrian](#) priests, so he ordered that the building be spared.^{[31][32]}

Basilica of the Nativity is a place which I have visited multiple times, and they will tell you that the invading Persians refrained from destroying the church in 614 because of what they saw contained within. They saw depictions of, and I quote, “**Three Magi** wearing the garb of Zoroastrian priests.” It appears as though that legend is told to nearly every visitor because even Wiki is saying the same thing. Whether this story is true or not is anybody’s best guess. I wouldn’t know as I wasn’t there. The number three though. How far back does the tradition go if it’s not to be found in the Bible?



"We Three Kings", original title **"Three Kings of Orient"**, also known as **"We Three Kings of Orient Are"** or **"The Quest of the Magi"**, is a **Christmas carol** that was written by **John Henry Hopkins Jr.** in 1857. At the time of composing the carol, Hopkins served as the rector of **Christ Episcopal Church** in **Williamsport, Pennsylvania**, and he wrote the carol for a **Christmas pageant** in **New York City**. It was the first widely popular Christmas carol written in America.^[1]

‘We Three Kings’ was written by **John Henry Hopkins Jr.** for a New York City Christmas pageant in **1857**, but as I’ve already shown you with the Basilica of the Nativity story, he wasn’t the individual responsible for making their number up. What I failed to realize during all those Christmases in the ~~trenches~~ pews is that Hopkins assigned a name to each of his three kings. You are literally supposed to sing the part for each character. **Gaspard** brought the gold, **Melchior** the frankincense, and **Balthazar** the myrrh. Where in the world would he get phonebook listings such as those if he was simply *assuming*? I thought that’s what he

Gaspard Born a **King** on **Bethlehem** plain,
Gold I bring to crown **Him** again,
 King for ever,
 Ceasing never
 Over us all to reign.
Refrain

Melchior **Frankincense** to offer have I,
Incense owns a **Deity** nigh:
Prayer and praising
 All men raising,
 Worship **Him God** on High.
Refrain

Balthazar **Myrrh** is mine; its bitter perfume
 Breathes a life of gathering gloom;—
 Sorrowing, sighing,
 Bleeding, dying,
 Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
Refrain

was doing. All those naughty people who turned around in church rather than singing the song as they were instructed to told me we mustn't assume there were three of them simply because three gifts were offered. That's not exactly how it went down though. Hopkins didn't go out of his way in naming the actor parts unless he had an investigative lead.





Perform an image search on the three wise men, why don't you? Particular to my investigation was medieval artwork. All I'm seeing in every single one of them is three dudes. Never four or five or twelve. The only argument being had by the artists was whether or not they wore crowns or a Phrygian cap.



There is another controversy to be had which regards whether or not one of the kings—Pythagoreans was black or not. In every tale, he would be **Balthazar**, bringer of myrrh. There's your third main variant. Just to make sure we're on



the same page, I will ask. How many magi do you see in any given image? I'm still counting three on my fingers. Every artist and gentleman scholar in His-Story assumed the number of magi matched the gifts on the baby registry, apparently. Given what we're told in Mattithyahu 2:1-2, none of this is adding up.

Melchior, along with the other Magi, is purported to be buried in the [Shrine of the Three Kings in Cologne Cathedral](#) following his remains being moved from [Constantinople](#) by [Eustorgius I](#) in 314 AD to [Milan](#). In 1164, [Holy Roman Emperor Fredrick Barbarossa](#) moved them to Cologne.^[7] Melchior is commemorated on the [Feast of Epiphany](#) along with the other members of the Magi^[6] but is also commemorated in [Catholicism](#) with his feast day, 6 January.^[8]

There is even a claim as to the final resting place of the three Magi. For those of you who have been following my Millennial Kingdom research, you'll never guess *where*. **Cologne Cathedral**. That's where the history writers tell us they were moved in **1164**, by **Emperor Barbarossa**. But even before that their remains were moved from Constantinople to Milan in **314** by **Emperor Eustorgius**. The suggestion there is that their bodies had already been gathered into one place, seeing as how they could be found in Constantinople.



The

shrine which is said to contain them can still be found in Cologne Cathedral to this day. And since I have already proposed the resurrection of the dead in the whereabouts of 500 AD, I will let you make up your own mind as to whether those bones, if there are any, be theirs or somebody else's. Figuring that out is not necessarily my directive at the moment. It's said to be the largest sarcophagus in the world, though that's a given, seeing as how it contains the reported remains of three men rather than the usual one. Sorry to sound like a broken record but you'd think somebody, anybody other than that discontented Christmas carol singer

in the row in front of me, would have taken umbrage with the number at any given point in history.

Well then, look at what else I just recently stumbled upon

³ **The names of the wise men and kings** were called as follows: **Zaharwanda** son of Artaban; **Hormizd** son of Sanatruq; **Austazp** son of Gudaphar; **Arsak** son of Mihruq; **Zarwand** son of Wadwad; **Ariho** son of Kosrau; **Artahsisat** son of Hawilat; **Astanbozan** son of Sisrawan; **Mihruq** son of Human; **Ahsiras** son of Sahban; **Nasardih** son of Baladan; **Merodak** son of Bil. ⁴ These are kings, sons of Eastern kings, in the land of Shir, which is the outer part of the entire East of the world inhabited by human beings, at the Ocean, the great sea beyond the world, east of the land of Nod, that place in which dwelt Adam, head and chief of all the families of the world.

Revelation of the Magi

What in the world. Somebody played with math and took the multiplication table out on the wise men because now I'm counting **12** of them in total. Not even their names match up. Revelation of the Magi indeed. I've read this book from beginning to end, and so, I can tell you the conclusion has the Magi being baptized decades later by the Apostle Ta'om (Thomas). It furthermore appears to be a very early well-preserved Christian document, maybe even older than the third century when the bone story was first documented in Constantinople. Even its theological themes line up with the Acts of Ta'om. So, what gives?

There's something else you should probably know. 'Revelation of the Magi' was only just recently "discovered" and translated. How very convenient. And I think I know what is happening. The number of wisemen, albeit 3 or 12, is probably not so dissimilar from what we've already seen going on with Sampson and Delilah and the haircutter or the lion and the wolf and the lamb. I wouldn't be in the least bit surprised if 'Revelation of the Magi' was a recognized authority in another reality. Meaning, it's a document which has only recently blended with our own time and space, thereby muddying the waters. The same might even be stated regarding the Magi verses the kings, and then there is the black man component. So many parallels which may have emerged. One reality doesn't disqualify the other as being untruthful. It's why I started out

saying not to be too hard on those who claim to recall reading three wise men or three magi or three kings in their Bibles. For me Mattithyahu was always unconcerned with their number but then that just goes to clue you into what Universe my people derive from.