

# WHAT IF JESUS HAD NEVER BEEN BORN?



## Matthew 2:1-12 – Jesus Changed Education, Medicine, And Science

November 26, 2023

### 1. The birth of Jesus changed the wise men.

*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." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: " 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.' " Matthew 2:1-6 (ESV)*

*Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. Matthew 2:7-12 (ESV)*

### 2. The birth of Jesus changed education.

#### A. Codifying Languages

## **B. The Printing Press**

I know what I want to do: I wish to print the Bible. — Joannes Gutenberg

## **C. Education For Everyone**

## **D. Education In America**

## **E. American Universities**

The chief thing that is aimed at in this college is to teach and engage children to know God in Jesus Christ. — Early Columbia University Advertisement

Cursed be all learning that is contrary to the cross of Christ. — Reverend John Witherspoon, President of Princeton University, 1768.

## **F. Sunday School**

## **G. Public Education in America**

# **3. The birth of Jesus changed medicine.**

## **A. The Creation Of Hospitals**

## **B. Hospitals In The United States**

## **C. Ancient and Modern Nursing**

The kingdom of heaven is within, but we must also make it so without.  
— Florence Nightingale

## **D. The Red Cross**

## 4. The birth of Jesus changed science.

### A. Louis Pasteur

He was a devout Christian. He wrote about his faith in God, the good news of Jesus Christ, and the power for good God gives us in this world. When he died, the hand of his wife was in one hand and a cross in the other.

### B. Joseph Lister

I am a believer in the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. — Joseph Lister

### C. Johannes Kepler

Since we astronomers are priests of the highest God in regard to the book of nature, it befits us to be thoughtful, not of the glory of our minds, but rather, above all else, of the glory of God. — Johannes Kepler

### D. Blaise Pascal

The Christian's God does not merely consist of a God who is the Author of mathematical truths and the order of the elements. That is the notion of the heathen. . . . But the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob, the God of the Christians, is a God of love and consolation. — Blaise Pascal

### E. Isaac Newton

This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets, could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful Being... I have a foundational belief in the Bible as the Word of God, written by men who were inspired. I study the Bible daily... Atheism is so senseless. When I look at the solar system, I see the earth at the right distance from the sun to receive the proper amounts of heat and light. This did not happen by chance. — Isaac Newton

## Applications

All the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that one solitary life. — James Francis

### 1. Jesus changed history,... and he changed it for the better!

**A. The desire for people to read the Bible and know Jesus is the root of modern education.**

**B. Medicine and hospitals came into existence as Christians expressed compassion for the sick.**

**C. Science and the Bible are not in conflict. Many of the greatest scientific minds in history loved their Bible and Jesus.**

### 2. If Jesus changed history, he can change your story... He came to forgive our sins and restore our relationship with God.

## Life Group Questions

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1. **Read Matthew 2:1-12.** What stood out as important in these verses?
2. **Review point 1.** Who were the wise men? When the wise men bowed to worship Jesus, what does that teach us must be the place of education, medicine, and scientific knowledge in relationship to Jesus?
3. **Review point 2,** which discusses how Jesus changed education. How did a burning desire for people to read the Bible change the world?
4. Education was privately run and Christian-based for the first 200 years in America. Now that education is state-run, how has it changed? What are children missing with state-run education? How can parents best provide their children with what they no longer receive?
5. **Review point 3.** Hospitals and medical care originated from Christian compassion for the poor and the sick. Since the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D., a hospital was to begin wherever there was a church. Now that hospitals and the medical community are for-profit businesses, what has the church lost in culture? How can we regain some of it?
6. Henry Dunant dreamed about making big differences in the world for Jesus when he created the YMCA and the Red Cross. As Christians, are we guilty of dreaming too small for Jesus?
7. **Review point 4.** We looked at a small list of famous scientists who loved Jesus and the Bible. How would you answer someone who claims the Bible is disproven and the life of Jesus is fiction? What are the most powerful arguments teenagers face that discourage them from trusting their Bible and placing faith in Jesus? (Such as evolution, atheism, or pluralism)