

# Shock and Awe

Matthew 2

*The Gospel of Matthew*

**Theme:** The *Story* isn't telling us what is permissible, but what is redeemable. Only God can turn water into wine. Only God can fix what is broken, deliver what is indebted, and redeem what is enslaved. God is making good on His promises.

## Outline:

- I. A questionable lineage (1:1-25)
  - A. Honorable whores, half-breeds, and hussies (1:1-17)
    1. Tamar (she sleeps with her father-in-law; v. 3)
    2. Rahab (her tagline is "Rahab the Harlot;" v. 5)
    3. Ruth (incest, the descendent of a drunken Lot and his daughter; v. 5)
    4. Bathsheba (an adulterer who conspired with King David to have her husband killed in order to cover her sin; v. 6)
  - B. A pregnant virgin (1:18-25)
- II. A power hungry politician (2:1-12)
- III. A suspicious sorcerer (2:1-12)
- IV. A dubious history (2:13-15)
  - A. Babylon
  - B. Egypt

## Shepherding the Sheep: (What's our NEXT STEP?)

1. Friend, if you have never considered the claims of King Jesus, then perhaps today you will. God calls you to believe.
2. Perhaps today you find yourself in a dark place. None of what you see makes any sense. Your family is falling apart, the government is in upheaval, right is wrong, wrong is right, the body is failing, you have no sense of direction, no comfort, and God seems distant and detached. Friend, what you see is real, but there is something else going on. God is moving His *Story* forward and you and your life are a part of that *Story*. God is winning and one day all of this will give way to a moment that you cannot in this life imagine. But it awaits you, He awaits you and there is a homecoming that only He can imagine and only He has and is preparing.
3. Hold fast, stay the course, and keep believing in Him.

