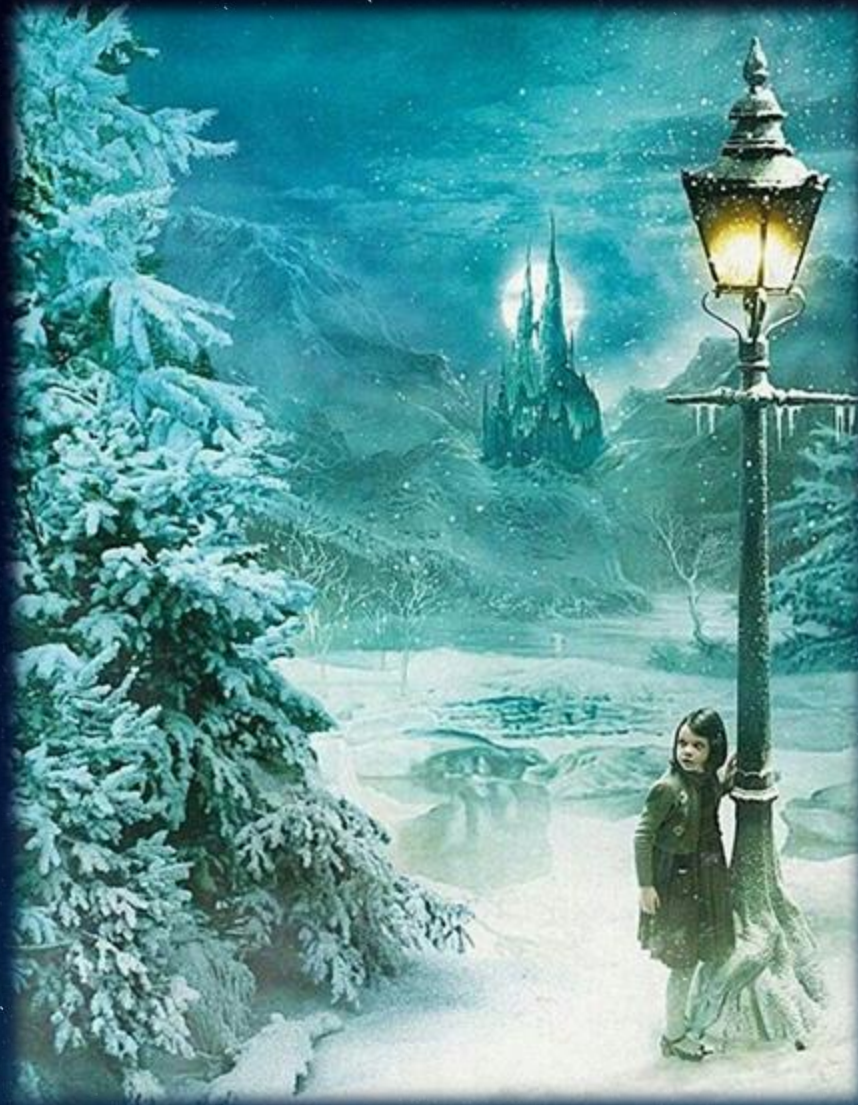


The background of the image is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, distant stars. A single, exceptionally bright star is positioned near the top center, emitting a prominent four-pointed starburst or cross-shaped glow. Below the main title, the sky transitions into a layer of soft, wispy clouds tinged with a warm, reddish-orange hue, suggesting the light of a low sun or moon. At the very bottom of the frame, the dark, jagged silhouette of a mountain range or forested hills is visible against the glowing horizon.

# SEEK THE KING

*Matthew 2:1-12*

# Always Winter... Never Christmas



# Anna & Simeon Sought the King (Luke 2:25, 36–38)



# **Seek the King**

**“Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem.”**

*Matthew 2:1*

# The Wise Men



# Wise Men Traditions



# **Seek the King**

**“Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.”**

*Matthew 2:2*

# Why They Came: To Worship the King



# King of the Jews



# A Troubled King & a Troubled City



# **Seek the King**

**“When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.”**

*Matthew 2:3*

# Seek the King

**“And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.”**

*Matthew 2:4*

# Seek the King

“And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.”

*Matthew 2:5-6*

**They knew about the King,  
but didn't discover Him.**



# Seek the King

**“But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.”**

*Micah 5:2*

# Seek the King

Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.”

*Matthew 2:7-8*

# Herod the Great: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

- **Good**
  - **Master Builder; Politically Brilliant; Economic Visionary**
- **Bad**
  - **Insecure; Puppet King; Rejected Scripture**
- **Ugly**
  - **Murderer; Tyrant; Massacre of the Innocents**

# Seek the King

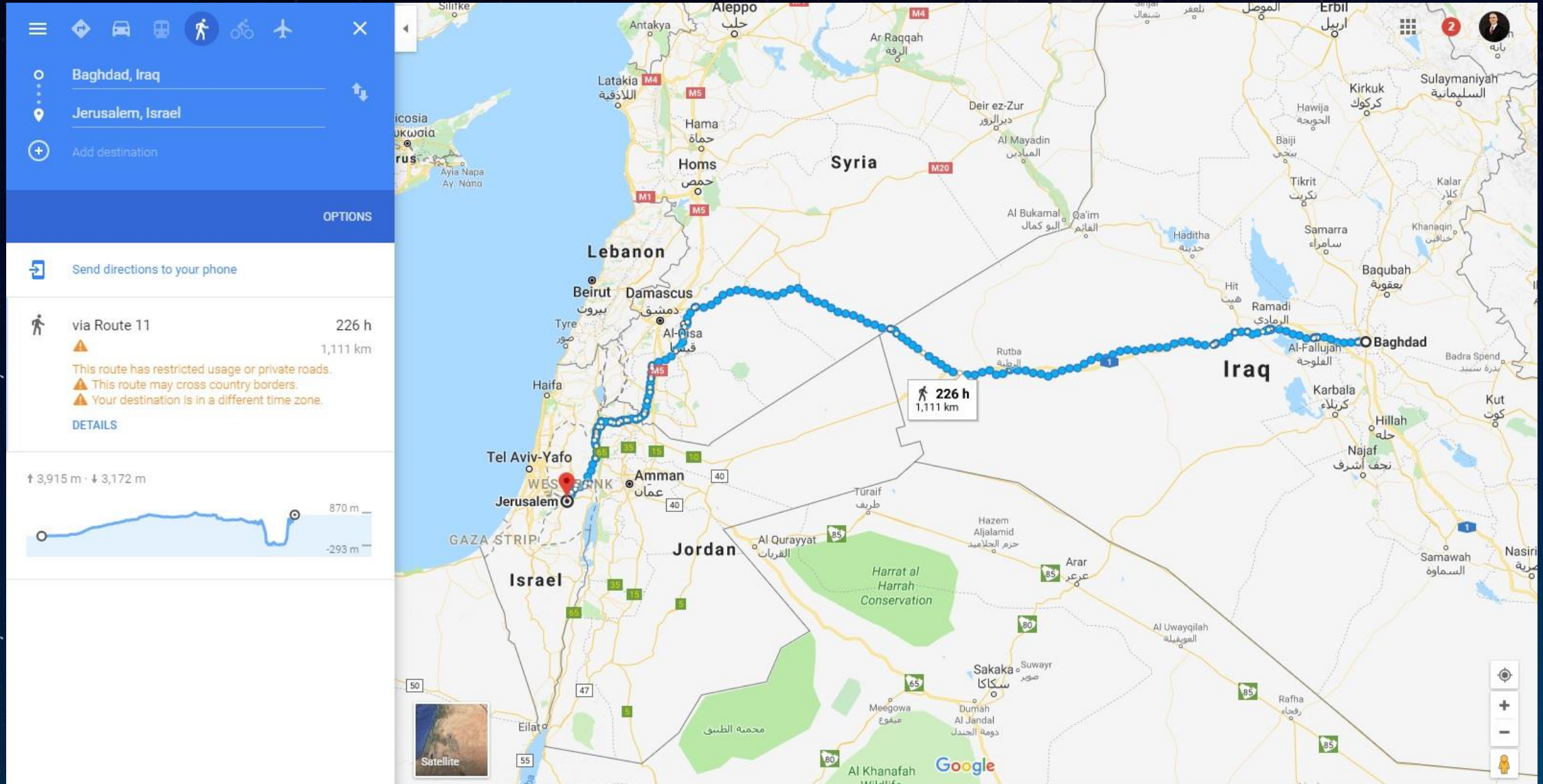
“When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.”

*Matthew 2:9–10*

The background of the image is a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, distant stars. A single, exceptionally bright star is positioned in the upper center, emitting a prominent white and yellow starburst with long, thin rays extending horizontally and vertically. Below the star, the sky transitions into a soft, hazy glow. At the bottom of the image, there are several layers of rolling hills or mountains, rendered in dark purple and black silhouettes, creating a sense of depth and a horizon line.

# **The Star in the East**

# The Journey of the Wise Men



# **Journey of the Wise Men**

- **Estimated distance: 600–900 miles**
  - **Average travel: 15–25 miles per day**
  - **Estimated travel time: 4–8 months or longer**
  - **Explains why Jesus is found in a house (Matthew 2:11)**

# Seek the King

“And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.”

*Matthew 2:11*

# The Gifts

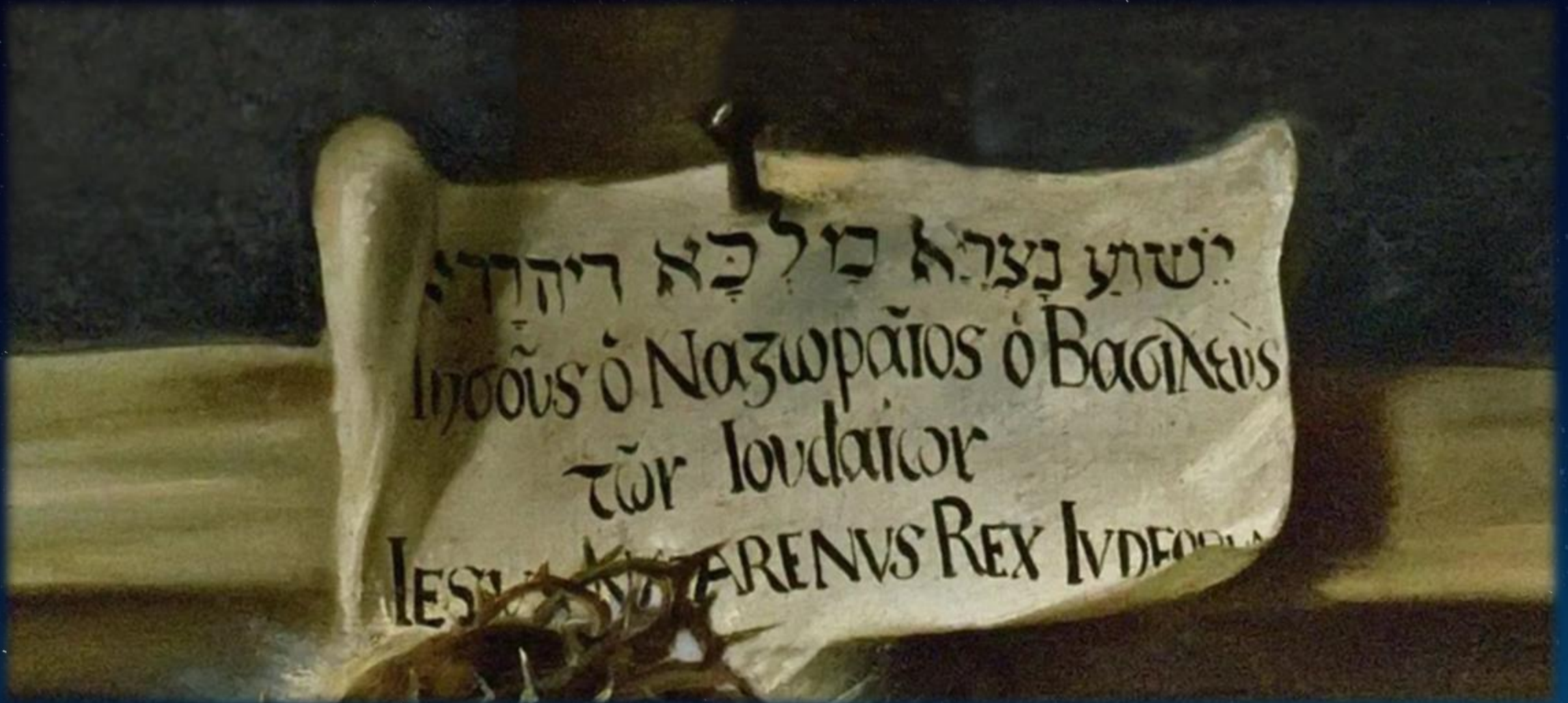


# Seek the King

“And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.”

*Matthew 2:12*

# King of the Jews: From the Manger to the Cross



ישוע נצרה מלך היהודים

Ἰησοῦς ὁ Ναζωπαῖος ὁ Βασιλεὺς

τῶν Ἰουδαίων

IESUS NAZARENUS REX IUDÆORUM

# Seek the King

**“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen...But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”**

*Hebrews 11:1, 6*

# **Seek the King**

**“And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.”**

*Acts 16:31*

# Have You Found the King?



# SEEK THE KING

