

# Facts About The **BIBBLE** BY JOHN LEHTI

## THREE WISE MEN?



ANY ONE WHO EVER ATTENDED A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION, PUT ON BY THE SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS, KNOWS THAT THE WISE MEN WHO FOLLOWED THE STAR FROM THE EAST TO WORSHIP THE INFANT JESUS WERE THREE KINGS NAMED MELCHIOR, GASPER, AND BELTHAZAR, RIGHT?.....WRONG!

NOWHERE IN THE BIBLE DOES IT STATE HOW MANY THERE WERE, WHAT THEIR RANK WAS, NOR THEIR NAMES! IN MATTHEW, THE ACCOUNT MERELY SAYS THEY WERE WISE MEN FROM THE EAST (MATT. 2:1). IN LUKE, ONLY SHEPHERDS ARE MENTIONED (LUKE 2:8-15).....



... THEY WERE NOT DESCRIBED AS KINGS UNTIL THE 6TH CENTURY A.D. AND, SINCE THREE GIFTS HAD BEEN GIVEN—GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH—SOMEBODY DECIDED THE "KINGS" MUST HAVE BEEN THREE IN NUMBER! BUT NOT UNTIL THE 8TH CENTURY WERE THEY NAMED MELCHIOR, GASPER, AND BELTHAZAR—BY WHOM, AND BY WHAT AUTHORITY, WE'LL NEVER KNOW!

NEXT WEEK: LAMP UNTO MY FEET!

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