



How did God make a star for the Magi to follow?

In December I gave the confirmation class an assignment to bring me questions they had about Christmas. The question above is one of those.

My answer is an easy one that took maybe one second to come up with: "I have no idea."

You see, the Bible doesn't tell us "how" God made that special star. There are lots of theories out there. For example, some say it could have actually been a comet or maybe a supernova or possibly a couple planets aligned or maybe even a solar flare. God certainly could have used any of those phenomena. But my best guess is that He did the same thing as when He created the universe: He simply spoke, saying, "Let there be..." and there was!!! I mean, if God could create everything that exists just by speaking it into existence, why not do the same with this guiding star?

Our problem is that we want everything God does to fit inside of this little "box" called "things I can understand." That's a problem, because God often (probably daily) does things we can't understand. He even told us that's what we could expect from Him:

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

Isaiah 55:8-9

I've said many times, "I'm glad there are lots of things about God and things God does that I can't understand. I glad, because that means God is greater than I will ever be. He sees what I can't see (like the future); He knows what I (nor any human - nor AI) will never know. He has power to do anything - anything good. In short, if I could understand everything about God, that would mean He's no better than me. And that is a very scary thought!"

So, I may not know how God created the star that guided the Magi, but I don't need to know! All I need to know is that He did it - and to thank Him for all the "stars" He has put in my life to guide me to Jesus.

Thanks for asking
Pastor David

Send your questions to pastor@livingwordlutheran.net