

A blue-toned illustration featuring a man with a beard and a horse. The man, on the right, is shown in profile, looking upwards and to the left. He has a full beard and is wearing a patterned, ornate garment. The horse, on the left, is shown in profile, facing left, with a bridle. The background is a dark blue gradient with numerous small white stars, suggesting a night sky. The overall mood is contemplative and hopeful.

The Thrill of Hope:
Really... The Thrill!

MATTHEW 2:1-2

The New Testament

Matthew 2:1-2

Mark

Luke 1

John

Acts

Romans

I & II Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

I & II Thessalonians

I & II Timothy

Titus

Philemon

Hebrews

James

I & II Peter

I, II, & III John

Jude

Revelation



The Magi knew it was a matter of time until they came face to face with this Christ Child.



What kind of hope:

I. Caused these men to travel such a great distance?

A. These men were well-studied.

B. These men were well-prepared.

C. These men were proactively committed.

What kind of hope:

II. Caused these men to shamelessly ask for directions?

A. The Magi had traveled too far and with too much at stake to get timid now.

B. The Magi got their best information from those who had profound knowledge in their heads but were enemies of Jesus in their hearts.

Matthew 5:8

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Matthew 13:14-15

You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive. For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.

Matthew 22:37

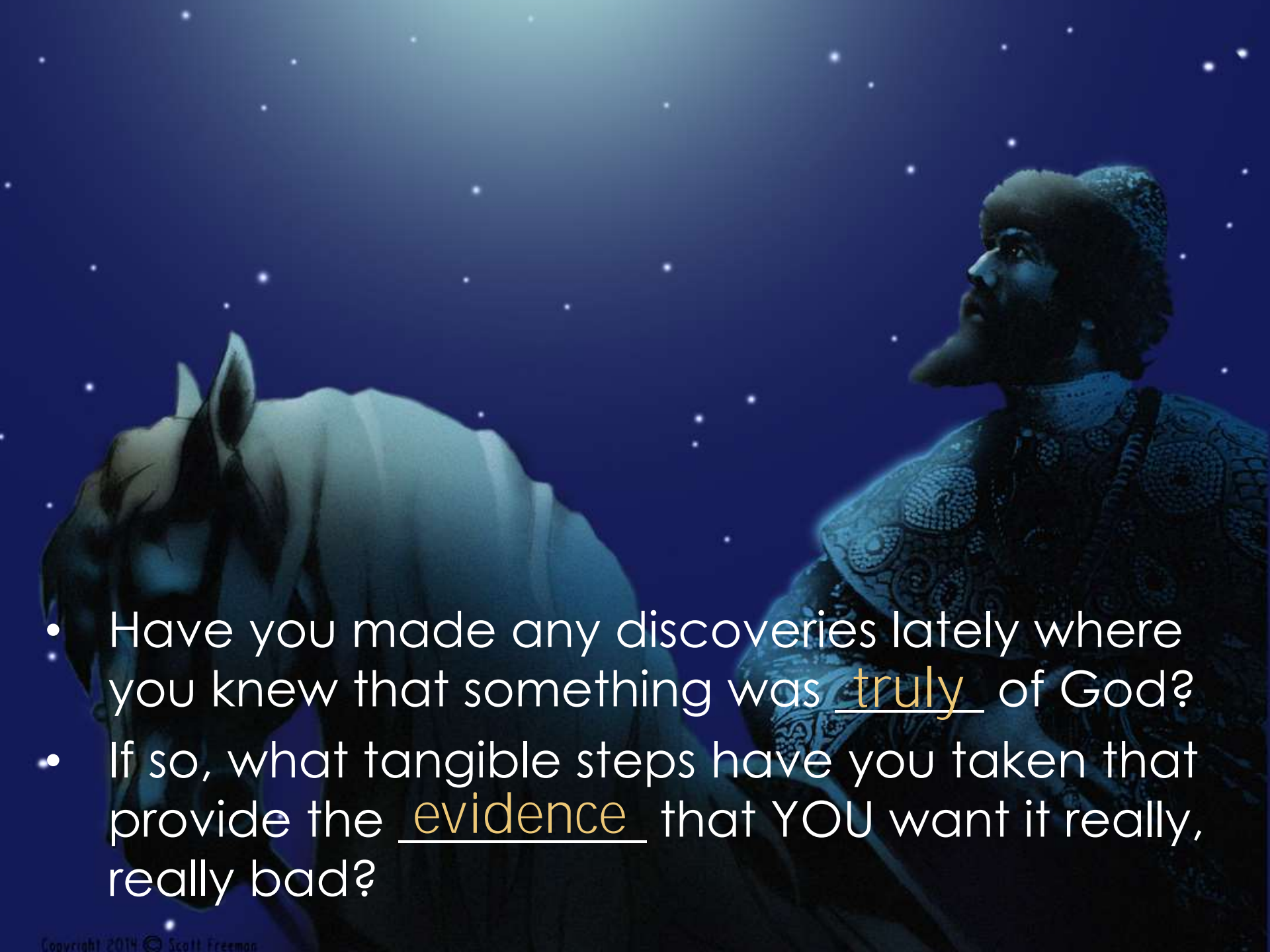
...(Jesus) said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

Luke 12:34

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

What kind of hope:

- III. Caused these men to find it enough to see Jesus?
- A. They did not make it to the stable.
 - B. They were driven face flat to the ground in worship of Jesus.
 - C. They unloaded their treasures fit for a king.
 - D. The greatest treasures they brought were their hearts that were driven to worship Jesus.

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- Have you made any discoveries lately where you knew that something was truly of God?
 - If so, what tangible steps have you taken that provide the evidence that YOU want it really, really bad?



A thrill of
HOPE

Prayer Person this Week

Holly Kreis

