

WILLIAM ROWE / WILLIAM KEREW
THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, CHAPTER 2, VERSES 1 - 20

This was the subject of an on-line seminar of lovinglivingcornish on 4 January 2024. The participants found much to discuss.

Comparison of the opening words
Greek original, Latin Vulgate, English Authorized Version, Welsh (Morgan), Welsh (Cymdeithas Y Beibl), Wella Rowe, Nicholas Williams

Conclusion: Rowe was translating not the Greek, nor the Latin, but the English Authorized Version; Williams – by basing himself on Rowe – likewise. Morgan’s Welsh, on the other hand, was translated from the Greek original.

Verse 1 in the original **Greek** (transcribed into the Latin alphabet)
Tou de Iesou genethentos en Bethleem tes loudaias en hemerais Heroidou tou basileos, idou magoi apo anatolon paragenonto eis Ierosolyma

Verse 1 in the **Latin** translation of St Jerome (the Vulgate)
Cum ergo natus esset Iesus in Bethleem Iudaeae in diebus Herodis regis, ecce magi ab oriente venerunt Hierosolymam

Verse 1 in the **English** Authorized Version (King James Bible)
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

Verse 1 in the **Welsh** Bible of William Morgan (1588, revised 1620)
Ac wedi geni’r Iesu ym Methlehem Jwdea, yn nyddiau Herod frenin, wele, doethion a dhaethant o’r dwyrain i Jerwsalem
Modern Welsh version (1988)
Wedi i Jesu gael ei eni ym Methlehem Jwdea yn nyddiau’r Brenin Herod, daeth sêr-ddewiniaid o’r dwyrain i Jerwsalem

Wella Rowe

Leben poue Jesus gennez en Bethalem a Judeah en Deethyow Herod an Matern, a reeg doaze Teeze veer thor an Est tha Jerusalem

Nicholas Williams

Lebmyn, pàn veu Jesu genys in Bethlem a Jûdy in dedhyow Erod an mytern, y teuth tus fur dhyworth an Ýst dhe Jerûsalem