### Matthew

## Chapter 2

1Then, after Jesus was born (in BethLehem of Judea during the days of King Herod), {Look!} Magi from the east came to JeruSalem, 2asking:  
  
 ‘Where is this one who was born to be the king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and we came to bow low before him.’  
  
3Well, when he heard about this, King Herod was very disturbed (as was everyone else in JeruSalem). 4So he gathered all the Chief Priests and the peoples’ Scribes and asked them where this Anointed One was to be born. 5And they replied:  
  
 ‘In BethLehem of Judea… Because, this is what was written through the Prophet:  
  
 6‘And you, O BethLehem in the land of Judea  
 Will no way be the least among rulers of Judah.  
 For from you, will come forth a leader,  
 Who will shepherd IsraEl, My people.’  
 [Micah 5:2]  
  
7Then Herod secretly called for those Magi and carefully determined from them when the star had appeared. 8And before he sent them on to BethLehem, he said:  
  
 ‘Search carefully for the young child... And when you find him, report back to me, so I can go and bow before him also.’  
  
9Then, after listening to what the king had to say, they traveled on… For {Look!} the star that they saw in the east went ahead of them until it stood directly over [the place] where the young child was! 10Well, when they saw the star [do this], they were beside themselves with joy!  
  
11And after they entered the house, they saw the little boy with Mary (his mother), and they fell down and bowed before him. Then they opened their treasures and gave the child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.  
  
12However, because they’d been given a divine warning in a dream that they weren’t to return to Herod, they went back home via another route.  
  
13Well, after they left, {Look!} Jehovah’s messenger appeared to JoSeph in a dream and said:  
  
 ‘Get up! Take the boy and his mother, then hurry to Egypt and stay there until I tell you otherwise, because Herod is going to search for the boy to destroy him!’  
  
14So he got up during the night and took the child and his mother, and they left for Egypt, 15where they stayed until after Herod died… So the thing that was said by Jehovah through the Prophet would be fulfilled:  
  
 ‘I called My son out of Egypt.’ [Hosea 11:1]  
  
16Well, when Herod saw that the Magi had outwitted him, he was furious. So he sent [a proclamation] throughout BethLehem and its districts to have all the boys that were two-years-old and younger to be gathered [for destruction], since that was the period he’d determined so carefully from the Magi.  
  
17And that’s also when the thing that was spoken through the Prophet JeremiAh was fulfilled, which said:  
  
 18‘A voice was heard crying from RamAh…  
 The sounds of weeping, wailing, and grief.  
 It was the voice of RachEl, crying for her sons,  
 And she refused to accept any comfort,  
 Because they’re no longer [alive].’  
 [Jeremiah 31:15]  
  
19Well, after Herod died, {Look!} Jehovah’s messenger appeared in a dream to JoSeph while he was in Egypt, 20and he said:  
  
 ‘Now, get up and take the child and his mother back to the land of IsraEl, because those who wanted to take the child’s life are dead!’  
  
21So [JoSeph] got up and took the child and his mother back to the land of IsraEl. 22However, when he heard that ArcheLaus had become the ruler in Judah in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, because of a divine warning that he had received in a dream.  
  
As a result, he traveled to the territory of Galilee, 23and they went to live in a city named Nazareth.  
  
So the thing that was spoken through the prophetSo the thing that was spoken through the prophet<sup class="difference">[Syr] was fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene, [meaning, contemptible].