

Matthew 2:13-23

The Escape to Egypt (13-15)

- ◆ After they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph and said, “Herod will be looking for the child in order to kill him. So get up, take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you to leave.” Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and left during the night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod died. This was done to make come true what the Lord had said through the prophet, “I called my Son out of Egypt.”
- ◆ When the Lord instructs us just as Joseph was instructed, we should do as he says. It’s for our own good. His instructions come in any form but the one we have readily available is the scripture, we should obey the instructions in the scripture and also which we might get in other ways so that we live well and are safe.

The Killing of the Children (16-18)

- ◆ When Herod realized that the visitors from the East had tricked him, he was furious. He gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its neighborhood who were two years old and younger—this was done in accordance with what he had learned from the visitors about the time when the star had appeared. In this way what the prophet Jeremiah had said came true: “A sound is heard in Ramah, the sound of bitter weeping. Rachel is crying for her children; she refuses to be comforted, for they are dead.”
- ◆ A lot of babies were killed as Herod was in search of Jesus Christ, this was prophesied by prophet Jeremiah. This is devastating, the level of cruelty by Herod. The effects of human evil are catastrophic, history is full of such stories and their bad results. When some people do evil, a lot of people suffer; in our country millions are suffering because of the evil of others. The bible is against evil, it promotes goodness; the effects of goodness benefit all people hence let’s chose goodness over evil.

The Return from Egypt (19-23)

- ◆ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go back to the land of Israel, because those who tried to kill the child are dead.” So Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went back to Israel. But when Joseph heard that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as king of Judea, he was afraid to go there. He was given more instructions in a dream, so he went to the province of Galilee and made his home in a town named Nazareth. And so what the prophets had said came true: “He will be called a Nazarene.”
- ◆ Joseph was guided all the way and he obeyed, this fulfilled the prophesies. God guides and leads his people.