16—23. ST. MATTHEW. 11   
   
 weeping for her children, and would not be comforted,   
 19 But when Herod was dead, be-   
 because they are not.   
 hold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph   
 in Egypt, 2° saying, Arise, and take the young child and   
 his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are   
 dead which sought the young child’s life. 21 And he   
   
 arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came   
 into the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Arche-   
 laus did reign !in Judea in the room of his father Herod,   
 he was afraid to go thither: ™- notwithstanding being warned   
 of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Gali-   
 lee: 3 and he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth :   
 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the pro-   
   
 phete, ' He shall be called a Nazarene.   
 {seo   
 1 vender, over. ™ render, and.   
   
 1 Sam. x. 2) was ‘in the way to Beth- In the ninth year his government Arche-   
 lehem ;’ and from that circumstance, per- laus was dethroned, for having governed   
 haps, the inbabitants of that place are cruelly the Jews and Samaritans, sent   
 called her children. We must also take an embassy to Rome against and he was   
 into account the close relation between banished to Vienne, in This account   
 the tribes of Judah and Benjamin, which gives rise to some difficulty compared   
 had long subsisted. Ramah was six miles with St. Luke’s history. It would cer-   
 to the north of Jerusalem, in the of tainly, on a first view, appear that this   
 Benjamin (Jer. xi. ‘ Er-Ram, marked Evangelist was not aware that Nazareth   
 by the vil and green patch on its had been before this the of Joseph   
 summit, the most conspicuous object and Mary. And it is no real to   
 a distance in the approach to Jerusalem this, that elsewhere calls “ His   
 from the South, is certainly ‘Ramah of country,” ch. xiii. It is perhaps   
 Benjamin.’” Stanley, Sinai and Pales- ible that St. Matthew, writing for   
 tine, p. 213; so that neither ae ha ews, although well aware of the   
 part of the prophecy be strictly taken. circumstances, may not have given them   
 20. for they are dead] The plural a place in his but made the birth   
 here is not merely idiomatic, nor for at Bethlehem the prominent point, seein;   
 lenity and forbearance, in speaking of that his account begins the birth (ch. i.   
 the dead; but perhaps a citation from 18), and does not localize took place   
 Exod. iv. 19, where the same words are before it, is merely inserted as   
 spoken to Moses, or not the num- servient to that great leading event. If   
 ber, but the category. Herod the Great this view be correct, all could expect   
 died of dreadful disease Jericho, in the is, that his narrative would contain no-   
 seventieth of his age, the thirty- thing inconsistent the facts in   
 eighth of his a.v.c. 750. 22.) Luke; which we find to be the case.—I   
 AROHELAUS was the son of Herod by should prefer, however, as more   
 Malthace, a Samaritan woman: he was consistent with the fair conscientious   
 brought up at Rome ; succeeded father, interpretation of our text, St. Mat-   
 but never bad the title king, only that thew himself was not aware of the events   
 of Ethnarch, with the of Idu- related in Luke i. and wrote under the   
 mea, Judea, and Samaria, the rest of his impression that Bethlehem the original   
 father’s being divided between dwelling-place of Joseph and Mary. Cer-   
 his brothers Philip and Antipas. But, tainly, had we only his this infer-   
 (1) very likely word reign is used ence from it would univereally made.   
 in the wider :—(2) Archelaus did, turned aside must not be pressed into   
 in the beginning his give out and service of reconciling two accounts by   
 regard himself as (3) in ch. xiv. 9, being rendered ‘returned ;’ for the same   
 Herod the Tetrarch is called King.— is used (ver. 14) of journey to