

But God warned them (the Wise Men) in a dream not to go back to Herod. So they returned to their country on a different road.



When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." 14 So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt



¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."



MATTHEW'S PURPOSE:

TO PROVE
THAT JESUS
IS THE LONG
AWAITED
MESSIAH!



Matthew 2:15 = *Hosea 11:1*

Matthew 2:18 = *Jeremiah 31:15*

Matthew 2:23 = *Isaiah 11:1*

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OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED: 98 TIMES!

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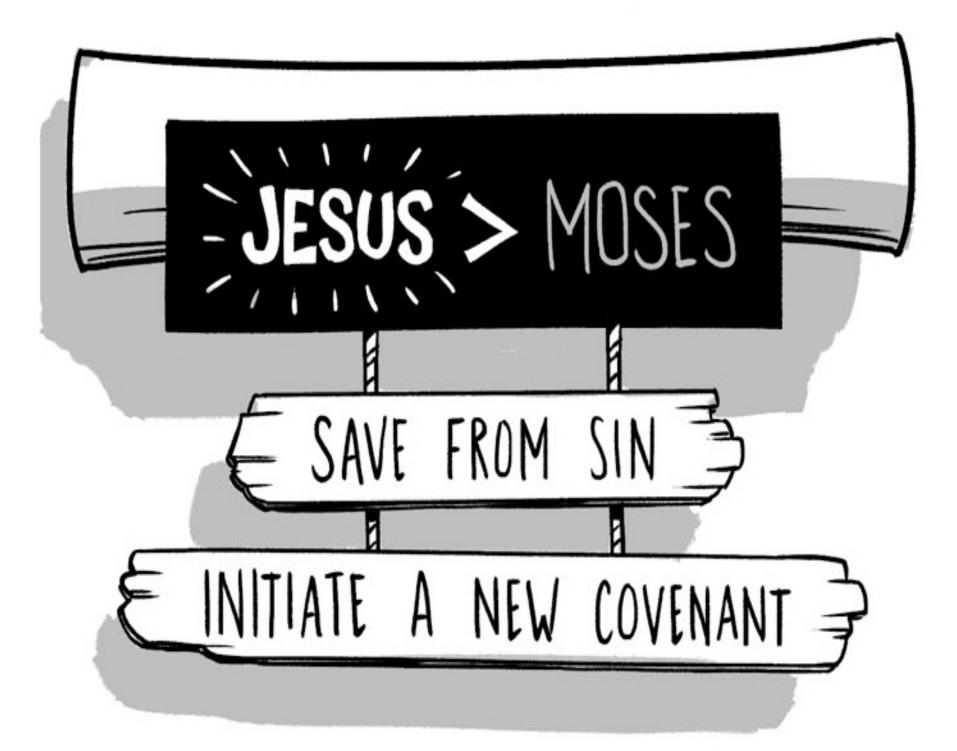


MOSES

JESUS

- · OUT OF EGYPT
 - CROSS THE RED SEA
- WILDERNESS FOR
 40 YEARS
- RECEIVES LAW
 FROM MOUNTAIN

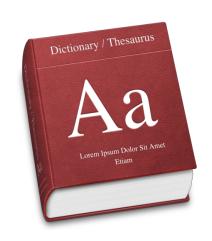
- · OUT OF EGYPT
- BAPTISM IN THE JORDAN RIVER
- · WILDERNESS FOR 40 DAYS
- * GIVES LAW FROM MOUNTAIN



15 where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." 16 When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.



¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was *furious...*



1. TO CAUSE ONE TO BECOME INCENSED, TO PROVOKE TO ANGER

ROOT WORD: PASSION, ANGRY, HEAT, ANGER, BOILING UP

17 Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: 18 "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."



¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰ and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead."



21 So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, 23 and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.





This may not be a popular part of the Christmas story, however it provides us with an outstanding opportunity to reflect on what it means to welcome Jesus into your life.



King Herod uses all of his God given gifts to build monuments to promote his stature, to protect his life and build his fortune. When he perceives a threat, there seems to be nothing he won't do to protect it.

Matt. 2:16 When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under



The coming of Jesus into the world evokes hostility and pushback. We shouldn't look at Herod and say, "Well, he was a tyrant."

Every single person in this room knows his own heart. You don't want other people telling you how to live your life. You want to choose for yourself.

"You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you are right, for that is what I am, but why do you call me 'Lord, Lord' and do not the things I say?"

We sing: "Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King."

When people met Jesus, they always acted in an extreme way. They never acted moderately. They either ran from him in terror, assaulted him in anger, or bowed in adoration and surrender.

They were either all for him or all against him. They were afraid of him or angry at him, they gave him everything and centered their entire life

around him, BUT NOBODY

RESPONDED MODERATELY.

Why? Because of his claims.

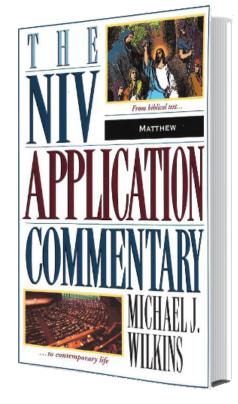
He's the King!

Joseph is willing to lay down his reputation to protect Mary. He is willing to venture into an unknown danger to protect his adopted son. He does all this without knowing how the story will end.

Matt. 2:13&14 an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." 14 So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt.



Remember that this is not Joseph's biological son. The bond between them did not derive from the deep emotional and spiritual tie of father and genetic son. It derived from the *deep bond* of obedience to the true Father of this Son.



THE NIV APPLICATION COMMENTARY by Michael Wilkins pg.127

It seems silly to "worship" a baby, unless the baby really is THE KING. Then it makes perfect sense.

In fact it would be <u>the only</u> <u>reasonable</u> response.

