

**Advent Series "Egypt, Herod and Hope"**  
**Matthew 2:13-18**  
**December 5, 2021**

Matthew 2:13-18

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." 14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

18

"A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

Resistance greets the birth of Christ.

Psalms 2:2

2 The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the Lord and against his Anointed

R.C. Sproul Quote -

"If God were to expose His life to our hands, He would not be safe for a second. We would not ignore Him; we would destroy Him."

God's plans are not corruptible.

Matthew 2:15

15 This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

Hosea 11:1

1 When Israel was a child, I loved him,  
and out of Egypt I called my son.

A new Exodus is happening through Jesus.

Matthew 2:17-18

17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

18 “A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

Through Jesus, there will be a return from exile.

“*Out of Egypt I called my son*” is not just *what* God would do through Jesus but *how*.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

### **Grow Group Discussion Questions**

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- When was the last time you had a new boss? Was that a difficult experience, why or why not? What are some of the questions we ask when someone new is in charge?
- Discuss the idea that Herod may have understood better than others what it means for Jesus to be king.
- Why are the two most appropriate responses to Jesus; resistance or worship?
- Matthew cites two Old Testament passages that highlight the exodus and exile. How does Matthew want us to understand Jesus in relationship to exodus and exile?
- How do these prophetic passages give you hope when life’s circumstances are terrible and you experience deep sorrow?
- Close your Group Group praying for the gospel to flourish even in the midst of resistance.