

ADVENT2024

Find HOPE • PEACE • JOY • LOVE in Jesus!

Finding Love in
Our Crisis

Matthew 2:13-23

Asst. Ps. Timothy Lee

The KING
is coming

Introduction

The KING is coming



Matthew 2:13-23

The KING is coming

The Escape to Egypt

¹³ 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.”^[a]

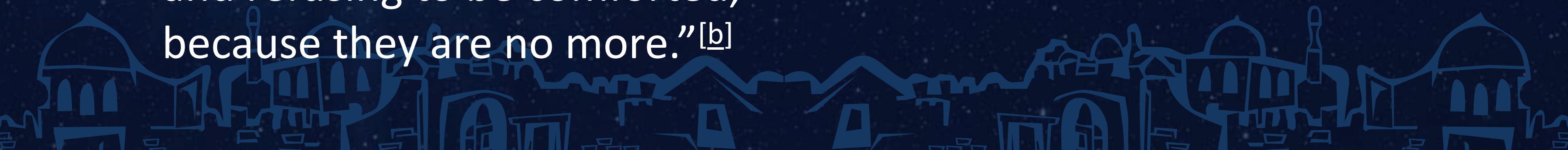


Matthew 2:13-23

The KING is coming

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. 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.”^[b]



Matthew 2:13-23

The KING is coming

The Return to Nazareth

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.



Matthew 2:13-23

The KING is coming

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.



God's Love is Evident in His Presence

The KING is coming

- God speaks in moments of crisis. (v. 13)
- God provides in moments of crisis. (v. 11)
- God is present after the crisis is over. (v. 19-21)



God's Love is Evident in His Guidance

The KING is coming

- Guidance away from Herod to Egypt. (v.16)
- Guidance away from Archelaus to Nazareth. (v.22-23a)



Footprints in the Sand

The KING is coming

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each, I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints; other times there was only one.

During the low periods of my life I could see only one set of footprints, so I said, "You promised me, Lord, that you would walk with me always.

Why, when I have needed you most, have you not been there for me?"



Footprints in the Sand

The KING is coming

The Lord replied, "The times when you have seen only one set of footprints, my child, is when I carried you."



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

The KING is coming

- 3 locations
- Egypt – Herod is out to kill Jesus so they escape to Egypt. (v. 13-14)
- Bethlehem – Herod killed the babies in Bethlehem. (v.16)
- Nazareth – Joseph and family went to Nazareth because Bethlehem was unsafe. (v.22-23a)

Events and locations incidental?



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

- Hosea 11:1-4

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

2 But the more they were called,
the more they went away from me.[a]

They sacrificed to the Baals
and they burned incense to images.

3 It was **I who taught Ephraim to walk,**
taking them by the arms;

but they did not realize
it was **I who healed them.**

4 I **led them with cords of human kindness,**
with ties of love.

To them I was like one who lifts
a little child to the cheek,
and **I bent down to feed them.**

The KING is coming



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

The KING is coming

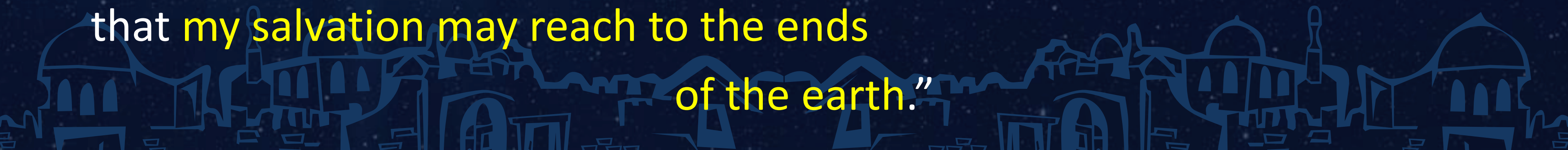
- God calls the nation his son. (Exodus 4:22)
- Nation of Israel called to be light to the nations and bring salvation to the ends of the earth.
- Isaiah 49:6

he says:

“It is too small a thing for you to be my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.

I will also make you **a light for the Gentiles,**
that **my salvation may reach to the ends**

of the earth.”



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

The KING is coming

- Jesus is the light of the world (John 8:12)
- Jesus' death on the cross, restored the relationship between God and man. (2 Cor. 5:18-20)
- Salvation to all humanity through Jesus. (John 3:16)

Jesus is the new Israel.



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

The KING is coming

- Jeremiah 31:15

15 This is what the LORD says: "A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

The KING is coming

Jeremiah 31

- The Lord will be the God of the nation of Israel and the nation of Israel will be his people again. (v. 1)
- He loved the nation of Israel with everlasting love and unfailing kindness. (v. 3)
- God comforted with words of promise: regathering, rebuilding, returning from exile and rejoicing. (v. 1-12)



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

The KING is coming

Jeremiah 31

- God would one day “turn their mourning into joy. (v. 31:14)
- V. 15 – the gloomiest verse.
- God told them to weep no more because they will return. (v.16-17)

In sorrow, there is hope!



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

The KING is coming

Jeremiah 31:33-34

33 "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord.

"I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.

**I will be their God,
and they will be my people.**

34 No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,'

because **they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest,"**

declares the Lord.

**"For I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more."**



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Jesus is our hope – our mediator.



God's Love is Evident in His Provision

The KING is coming

- “he would be called a Nazarene.” (Matt. 2:23b)

- John 1:45-46

45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 “Nazareth! **Can anything good come from there?**” Nathanael asked.

Jesus comes humbly and lowly.



Implication

- God speaks to us in moments of crisis, he is with us, he will guide us, and he provides Jesus, to be our Savior.

The KING is coming



Hidden Christmas by Tim Keller

The KING is coming

“In every heart, then, there is a little “King Herod” that wants to rule and that is threatened by anything that may compromise its omnipotence and sovereignty. Each of us wants to be the captain of our own soul, the master of our own fate.”

“We all have sinned and fall short of the glory Of God.” (Rom. 3:23)



Reflection

The KING is coming

- 1 John 4:9-10

9 This is how God showed his love among us: **He sent his one and only Son into the world** that **we might live through him**. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that **he loved us** and sent his Son as **an atoning sacrifice for our sins**.



Response

The KING is coming

- Have you found Jesus? – God's greatest love to us.
- Is Jesus the Lord of your life?

