

SERMON NOTES

Preacher: Kevin Hardy

Date: December 22, 2024

Text: Matthew 2:13-23

Title: Jesus the Messiah Brings Hope

Big Idea: Jesus the Messiah is the new Israel who brings hope, rescues his people, and fulfills God's promises.



I. JESUS THE MESSIAH IS THE NEW ISRAEL; THE NEW “SON” (vv. 13-15)

“This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, ‘Out of Egypt I called my son.’”

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. (Hosea 11:1)

God's redemption of Israel points forward to Jesus, the true Son of God.

Where Israel fails, Jesus succeeds!

II. JESUS THE MESSIAH BRINGS HOPE (vv. 16-18)

“Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah...”

There is hope for your future, declares the Lord, and your children shall come back to their own country. (Jeremiah 31:17)

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. (Jeremiah 31:33)

III. JESUS THE MESSIAH RESCUES HIS PEOPLE AND FULFILLS GOD’S PROMISES (vv. 19-23)

“And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.”

Nazareth:

- Not important, looked down upon.
Prophets foretold that the Messiah would be looked down upon (Isa. 53).
- Derives its name from the word “branch” in Hebrew.
Jesus fulfills the promise of the Davidic Branch (Isa. 11:1; Jer. 23:5; 33:15; Zech. 3:8).

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

To be used for personal reflection and/or sermon-based small group discussion.

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READ Matthew 2:13-23

How does Joseph's immediate obedience to the angel's commands set an example of faith and trust in God?

How does Matthew emphasize the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy in this passage (e.g., Hosea 11:1, Jeremiah 31:15)? Why is it significant that Jesus' early life aligns with these prophetic scriptures?

What does Herod's reaction to the Magi's visit and his decree to kill children in Bethlehem reveal about his character and fears? How does Herod's attempt to thwart God's plan contrast with God's sovereignty?

What parallels can be drawn between Jesus' family's flight to Egypt and Israel's history of exile and deliverance? How does this comfort you today?

How does this passage illustrate that God can work through human actions, even those intended for evil, to accomplish His purposes? How can this truth bring comfort in times of suffering or uncertainty?

The slaughter of innocent children is a tragic part of this story. How does this account deepen our understanding of the cost of sin and the brokenness of the world? In what ways does Jesus' early suffering foreshadow His ultimate mission of salvation?

How does seeing the fulfillment of prophecy in Jesus' life strengthen your faith in God's promises for the future?

PRAY

