

Title: The Main Man - Matthew 2 13-23

Read:

¹³After the scholars were gone, God's angel showed up again in Joseph's dream and commanded, "Get up. Take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt. Stay until further notice. Herod is on the hunt for this child, and wants to kill him." ¹⁴⁻¹⁵Joseph obeyed. He got up, took the child and his mother under cover of darkness. They were out of town and well on their way by daylight. They lived in Egypt until Herod's death. This Egyptian exile fulfilled what Hosea had preached: "I called my son out of Egypt." ¹⁶⁻¹⁸Herod, when he realized that the scholars had tricked him, flew into a rage. He commanded the murder of every little boy two years old and under who lived in Bethlehem and its surrounding hills. (He determined that age from information he'd gotten from the scholars.) That's when Jeremiah's sermon was fulfilled: A sound was heard in Ramah, weeping and much lament. Rachel weeping for her children, Rachel refusing all solace, Her children gone, dead and buried. ¹⁹⁻²⁰Later, when Herod died, God's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt: "Up, take the child and his mother and return to Israel. All those out to murder the child are dead." ²¹⁻²³Joseph obeyed. He got up, took the child and his mother, and reentered Israel. When he heard, though, that Archelaus had succeeded his father, Herod, as king in Judea, he was afraid to go there. But then Joseph was directed in a dream to go to the hills of Galilee. On arrival, he settled in the village of Nazareth. This move was a fulfillment of the prophetic words, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Think:

Prediction after prediction after prediction, was fulfilled when a baby was born in Bethlehem. But actually, what was said about Jesus before he was born wasn't as important as what happened later. What happened at the beginning of Jesus life was less important than what happened at the end of his life on this earth. This little baby grew into a man, and not just any man, he grew into the Main Man. If you have mates at school who think they are the coolest thing going, they don't know the coolest guy that ever lived was Jesus. If you look on TV at guys who strut their stuff when they sing songs, because they think they have it all, they have missed having the most important thing they could have. The Main Man was born in a stable, amongst sheep poo, and donkey droppings! He grew up working hard as a carpenter's son. He led a small band of fisherman around, telling people about God. He was ridiculed, beaten and then strung up on a cross, with nails driven through his body. He died, and rose again after three days, all so that you and I can spend forever with Him and His father partying in Heaven. Now that's the Main Man. Happy Birthday Jesus.

Pray:

Lord thank you for dying for me on the cross. Amen.

Action:

This Christmas don't get distracted by whether it is the actual date that Jesus was born on. It almost certainly wasn't the actual date. But do enjoy celebrating that fact that Jesus was born and died for you. Bye.