

Matthew 2:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

Analysis

The angel's command to 'flee into Egypt' shows God's providential care using Egypt (former place of bondage) as a place of refuge. The urgency 'by night' reflects imminent danger. God's foreknowledge of Herod's intention to 'destroy' the child demonstrates divine protection of the Messiah despite human opposition.

Historical Context

Egypt had a large Jewish population in cities like Alexandria. The journey was about 75 miles—manageable but dangerous. The timing of the Magi's gifts was providential, providing resources for this unexpected flight. Egypt remained safe until Herod's death.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How has God protected you from dangers you didn't fully recognize at the time?
2. What does this passage teach about trusting God's guidance even when it requires urgent action?

Interlinear Text

Ἄναχωρησάντων δὲ αὐτό ιδού, ἄγγελος Κυρίου
were departed And him behold the angel of the Lord
G402 G1161 G846 G2400 G32 G2962

φαίνεται κατ' ὄναρ τῷ Ἰωσὴφ λέγων, Ἐγερθεὶς
appeareth in a dream to Joseph saying Arise
G5316 G2596 G3677 G2501 G3004 G1453

παράλαβε τὸ παιδίον καὶ τὴν μητέρα αὐτό καὶ
and take the young child and G3588 G3813 G2532 G3588 G3384 G846 G2532

φεῦγε εἰς Αἴγυπτον καὶ ἴσθι ἐκεῖ ἕως ἀν εἴπω σοι·
flee into Egypt and be thou there until I bring thee
G5343 G1519 G125 G2532 G2468 G1563 G2193 G302 G2036 G4671

μέλλει γὰρ Ἡρώδης ζητεῖν τὸ παιδίον τοῦ ἀπολέσαι
will for Herod seek the young child G3588 G3813 G3588 to destroy
G3195 G1063 G2264 G2212 G622

αὐτό
him
G846

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 1:20 (References Lord): But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of

David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 10:7 (Parallel theme): And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

Acts 5:19 (References Lord): But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said,

Acts 12:11 (References Lord): And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

Job 33:15 (Parallel theme): In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men, in slumberings upon the bed;

Exodus 1:22 (Parallel theme): And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.

Matthew 2:16 (Parallel theme): Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.

Matthew 2:12 (Parallel theme): And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

Revelation 12:14 (Parallel theme): And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

Revelation 12:6 (Parallel theme): And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.