

# Matthew 2:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

## Analysis

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Herod's death demonstrates God's sovereign justice—tyrants may rage, but their days are numbered by divine decree. The timing of the angel's message shows God's providential care, protecting His Son until the threat passed. This illustrates the principle that no weapon formed against God's purposes shall prosper (Isaiah 54:17).

## Historical Context

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Herod died in 4 BC from a gruesome disease described by Josephus, involving gangrene and worms. His death was agonizing, befitting his cruelty. God's timing in protecting Jesus until after Herod's death shows precise providential care.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does the death of tyrants like Herod demonstrate that God's justice, though sometimes delayed, is certain?

2. What does this passage teach about trusting God's timing and protection for His people?

## Interlinear Text

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Τελευτήσαντος	δὲ	τοῦ	Ἡρώδου	ἰδού,	ἄγγελος	Κυρίου
was dead	But	G3588	when Herod	behold	an angel	of the Lord
G5053	G1161		G2264	G2400	G32	G2962
κατ'	ὄναρ	φαίνεται	τῷ	Ἰωσὴφ	ἐν	Αἰγύπτῳ
in	a dream	appeareth	G3588	to Joseph	in	Egypt
G2596	G3677	G5316		G2501	G1722	G125

## Additional Cross-References

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**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.

**Daniel 8:25** (Parallel theme): And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

**Isaiah 51:12** (Parallel theme): I, even I, am he that comforteth you: who art thou, that thou shouldest be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass;

**Psalms 139:7** (Parallel theme): Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

**Psalms 76:10** (Parallel theme): Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain.

**Jeremiah 30:10** (References Lord): Therefore fear thou not, O my servant Jacob, saith the LORD; neither be dismayed, O Israel: for, lo, I will save thee from afar,

and thy seed from the land of their captivity; and Jacob shall return, and shall be in rest, and be quiet, and none shall make him afraid.

**Matthew 2:22** (Parallel theme): But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

**Ezekiel 11:16** (References Lord): Therefore say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Although I have cast them far off among the heathen, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet will I be to them as a little sanctuary in the countries where they shall come.

**Daniel 11:45** (Parallel theme): And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.