

Matthew 2:20

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life.

Analysis

The phrase 'they are dead which sought the young child's life' echoes Exodus 4:19 when God told Moses to return to Egypt, creating a typological parallel between Moses and Christ. Both were deliverers threatened by infanticide, preserved by God's providence. This connection reinforces Christ as the greater Moses who leads God's people from bondage to sin and death.

Historical Context

The parallel to Moses strengthens Matthew's presentation of Jesus as the new and greater deliverer. Just as Moses brought Israel from physical bondage in Egypt, Jesus brings spiritual deliverance from sin.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does Christ fulfill and exceed the role of Moses as deliverer of God's people?
2. What does the parallel between Moses and Jesus teach about God's consistent pattern of redemption?

Interlinear Text

λέγων, Ἐγερθεὶς παράλαβε τοῦ παιδίου καὶ τοῦ
Saying **Arise** **and take** **which** **the young child** **and** **which**
G3004 G1453 G3880 G3588 G3813 G2532 G3588

μητέρα αὐτοῦ καὶ πορεύου εἰς γῆν Ἰσραήλ.
mother **his** **and** **go** **into** **the land** **of Israel**
G3384 G846 G2532 G4198 G1519 G1093 G2474

τεθνήκασιν γὰρ τοῦ ζητοῦντες τοῦ ψυχὴν τοῦ
they are dead **for** **which** **sought** **which** **life** **which**
G2348 G1063 G3588 G2212 G3588 G5590 G3588

παιδίου
the young child
G3813

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 4:19 (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto Moses in Midian, Go, return into Egypt: for all the men are dead which sought thy life.

Matthew 2:13 (Resurrection): 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.

1 Kings 11:40 (Parallel theme): Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

1 Kings 11:21 (Parallel theme): And when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the captain of the host was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, Let me depart, that I may go to mine own country.

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