

Matthew 2:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.

Analysis

Joseph's obedient return to Israel demonstrates continued trust in God's guidance despite previous danger. The phrase 'land of Israel' emphasizes the covenantal significance of the promised land as the setting for Messiah's ministry. Joseph's faithful obedience shows that true faith perseveres in following God's leading, even when circumstances have been threatening.

Historical Context

The return occurred after Herod's death in 4 BC, when Jesus was likely 2-3 years old. The family's years in Egypt were formative, though Scripture is silent about this period, emphasizing instead God's providential protection and guidance.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does Joseph's continued obedience after facing persecution model persevering faith?

2. What does the return to Israel signify about God's covenant faithfulness to His promises?

Interlinear Text

Ο δὲ ἐγερθεὶς παρέλαβεν τὸ παιδίον καὶ τὴν
G3588 **And** G1161 **he arose** G1453 **and took** G3880 **the young child** G3813 **and** G2532 **τὴν** G3588
μητέρα αὐτοῦ καὶ ἤλθεν εἰς γῆν Ἰσραήλ
mother his and came into the land of Israel
G3384 G846 G2532 G2064 G1519 G1093 G2474

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 11:8 (Parallel theme): By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

Genesis 6:22 (Parallel theme): Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

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