

Please put your name here

Study No. 4
Christ's Birth - Persecution Begins



Matthew 2: 13-23

Suggested Further Reading
 Genesis 3: 15 Acts 10: 38-43



Hebrews 2: 14

Herod felt threatened by the birth of Christ. He ordered the slaughter of all the boys aged two and under, in the Bethlehem district. In doing this, he was hoping that the Lord Jesus would be among those killed! His plan was evil, as Satan was behind it. Genesis 3: 15 was being fulfilled, in part.

Look up this Bible verse and write what it says about the relationship between the serpent (Satan) and the "woman's seed" (The Lord Jesus).

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1

At Calvary, the Lord Jesus was going to crush Satan and rob him of his power. This was one of the reasons for Him being born into our world!

Write out the Key Verse which tells us this important fact.

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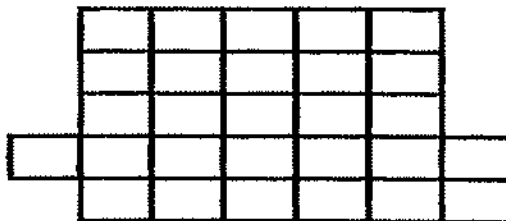
1

In the Bible Reading, we see that God was in control! God, through an angel, gave instructions to Joseph to save the young Child from Herod's wicked plot.

Complete the WORD BLOCK.

WORD BLOCK

1. Joseph was warned in this.
2. Joseph was spoken to by this.
3. Joseph was told to go to this place.
4. Joseph was fulfilling the words of the
5. The relationship of Mary to Jesus.



Which word appears both down and across?

.....

3

Answer YES or NO to the following statements:-

- Joseph left Judea at night.
- He took only the young Child with him.
- He stayed in Egypt until Herod's death.
- The slaughter of the boys was prophesied.
- Hiriam was king at this time.



5

When they eventually left Egypt, they fulfilled the words of Hosea, the prophet. (See Matthew 2: 15.)

Write out his prophecy.

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1

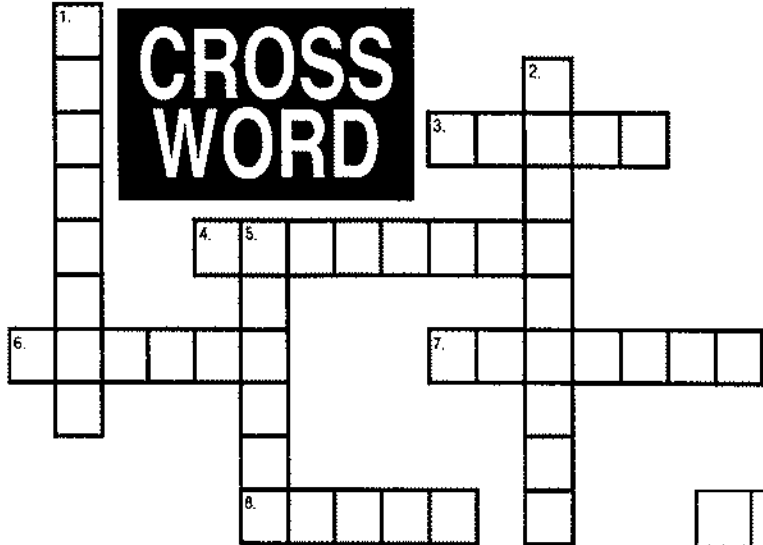
Complete the CROSSWORD.

Clues Down

1. The name of the Old Testament book which comes before Lamentations and is mentioned in verse 17.
2. The name of the king when Joseph returned.
5. Joseph's reaction when he heard about the new king.

Clues Across

3. The king who ordered the massacre.
4. The town Joseph settled in.
6. The relationship of 3 across to 2 down.
7. The area Joseph went to instead of Judea.
8. God spoke to Joseph by this means.



4

Throughout this difficult time, God spoke to Joseph in dreams.

Write down the three verse numbers where this happened.

verse
verse
verse

3

Each time, Joseph simply trusted God and obeyed His Word.

In our four studies, how many prophecies are mentioned between Matthew 1: 18 and Matthew 2: 23, as being fulfilled?

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2

The birth of the Lord Jesus Christ was miraculous yet ordinary, lowly yet majestic! We have read of men both worshipping Him and seeking to destroy Him! Throughout our studies we have seen God's great plan being unfolded.

There are questions only **YOU** can answer:

- Do you believe - that the Baby born in Bethlehem is the Son of God?
- that He came from Heaven?
- that He died on Calvary's cross?
- that He provided salvation for you?
- that He was raised from the dead?

God waits for your answer!



A very Happy Christmas to you!



"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift." 2 Corinthians 9: 15

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