

1/17/19

NT #3

Matthew 2; Luke 2

GT

Matthew 2 observations

Overarching theme:

★ Jesus is "God with us" in the sense that he came to earth in awful circumstances, and his early life was extremely difficult. He didn't come to rule from "above" but below. Matthew would later point out that Jesus would suffer more and serve all. Foreshadowing the "upside-down kingdom."

- teenage(?) pregnancy out of wedlock
- ~~unprotected~~ unmasked for attention & even wealth.
- prophecies of suffering
- persecution, threats of violence, exile to Egypt (Hosea 11)
- others suffering innocently in his name, wealth ends up with Herod?
- return to town of mother's disgrace probably = 1st choice
- children killed reminiscent of Moses (just like Zacharias & Elizabeth are intended to remind us of Ab. & Sarah, Christ being like Moses shows his pivotal role in Jewish history, his status as lawgiver, dispensation head (though they didn't likely use the term) and light through the wilderness of sin to the Promised Land of grace. Jews know (Matt. knew) Moses took Jews out of Egypt, then had to take Egypt out of Jews. Matt implies the same thing going on here

Isaiah 11 → branch
Isaiah 53 - stick
again Matt. takes on Israel story & makes it about Jesus

through them are living through horrible circumstances. God's plans are on course.

mentions New Test. DR is Matthew retelling entire Exodus story to show it as fulfillment in Jesus? Jesus's life parallels the Exodus. Cf. Six Antecedents

4 times he says - fulfilled ~~that~~ which was spoken by the prophet. But doesn't say that about the Magi's star - but the Magi were correct. So they had a prophet, and that prophet is not in the Bible, nor was he even @ that time

ch 2:15 → Hosea 11:1 → Ex. 4:22-23
out of Egypt I have called my son

ch. 2:18
Jer. 31:15 → Genesis 35:18
A voice out of Rama, Rachel weeping for her children wants to call Benjamin Ben-oni: son of my distress
→ Jeremiah's desire was to use Rachel as a symbol of God's own grief. The next verse shows that the children will return. So Matthew's intent in this allusion is to show:
1) God weeps for the suffering of his children
2) Jesus will save & return God's children to him

ch. 2:6
Bethlehem will be the hometown or birthplace of the messiah.

ch. 2:23 - nazareth
Isaiah 11:1 Jer. 23:5 Zech. 6:12
A branch from Jesse will grow up bearing fruit
He shall be called a Nazarene

Luke 2 observations

- v 4 Being from the house & lineage of David was probably considered quite a status symbol - so everyone who could conceivably lay claim to such lineage was there, and probably some who couldn't. You have David as an ancestor & the Messiah (possibly) as your descendant. (since it is known Christ would come from that line)
- v 5-6 the common idea of them arriving the day of the birth is not supported. Joseph would have known better and so would Mary.
- v 7 "guest room" is another rendering of κοιταλυματι. There is no mean in keeper sending them away. They would likely have been staying with family, who would have said "look, if you want privacy, you'll have to go downstairs with the animals. It's drafty, smelly, and dirty, but at least you'll be alone."
- v 9 who was this angel? He doesn't give his name. Can you imagine it isn't Gabriel, who has announced the news about Christ in every other instance?
- v 10 "Fear not" → each time he begins with this (1:13 Zach, 1:30 Mary, Matt 1:20 Jos.) (Isaiah 6) why are they afraid?
"good tidings" → tons about this. Do it from memory. See lesson on Isaiah 40 for record
- v 16 The miracle of this night didn't happen to Mary & Joseph. The shepherds saw a host of angels. Joseph & Mary saw a bunch of strangers rush in & check their baby out
- v 28 similar thing happens with Simeon, he snatches the baby up and ignores them and prays to God, then gives Mary part blessing and part curse
- v 38 Anna also doesn't talk to them but to God & to the onlookers
- v 46 where did Jesus sleep & eat for 3 days?

The point OR "o" point of this chapter: Mary and Joseph were not made to feel special? It seems (to my modern sensibility) that they were being shown from the beginning this story isn't about them

Jesus's humble beginnings - A king should have the best; Jesus had the worst. It should prize strength; Jesus prized weakness. A king should be served by all; Jesus served all. ^{a kingdom} ~~the~~ ^{Luke} ~~the~~ ^{by showing} the humble ~~to~~ genesis of Jesus, is setting the stage to teach about his upside-down kingdom.

v. 51 mother treasured all these things - isn't Luke telling us Mary was one of his sources?

52 wisdom, stature, favor w/ God and man

how did he learn?

how did he increase in favor w/ God?

Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart

② guest house

Luke 2:25-38 Anna & Simeon
Luke 2:41-51 Lost in Jerusalem

① Luke → Gentile to fellow gentiles, i.e. Convert to follow Christ, without having to first convert to Judaism

③ Luke 2:10-12

④ BH: Luke 2:14 → the very message of the angels is the church membership should not quarrel
Matthew → Jesus is "the fulfillment" of the unkept promises of the scriptures

Davidic Covenant: 2 Samuel 7:8-17

God would give David a house, and treat David's son like his own son.

Isaiah 11:1-9

Matthew is teaching not just that Jesus is the promised Messiah, he's teaching the very reason for which the Messiah was promised in the first place. He's showing us not just that the Law of Moses points to Christ, but why a Savior was required at all. Jesus is not merely the fulfillment of the Hebrew scriptures, but the culmination of all things since the beginning.

Story of the Magi:

- ① they showed up at the correct place & time
- ② they carried rich gifts (i.e. they weren't investigating to see if their suspicion was right. they know it was right)
- ③ they wanted to honor Jesus, the "king of the Jews"

Therefore they:

- 1) Were Jews, and had a prophet
- 2) had come on a tremendous journey, covering a great distance
- 3) had been sent to touch off a crisis (their "star" didn't work again until they had been to see Herod & learned the name of the city)

Mary & Joseph:

- fled small town rumor mill
- lived in cramped quarters just to be taxed on the little they had
- had to give birth in the stable
- had strangers intrude always on their privacy
- finally see some real benefit, then have to leave their home in the middle of the night for years and live in fear of the king. Feel responsible for dozens of babies' deaths.

Hosea 11 → Exodus 4

Jesus is Israel

- children killed to try to destroy him
- fled across the desert
- brought out of Egypt
- 40 days/years
- crosses the river Jordan
- enters Canaan, where he is ultimately destroyed by wickedness

God With Us

Why do good things happen to bad people?

1st time
Immanuel
from Matt 1

2nd time @ ~~end~~ end
↳ Davidic Cov't

↳ Branch

Matthew does not answer the question, but makes it clear it's not a sign of everything having gone wrong, of God having messed up in our case. After all, his Son & his family had the exact same experience.