

Matt 2:13-23 – Exodus, Exile, Return

Main Idea: Jesus, as the Righteous Branch of David, fulfills God's Promises & Will as the Last Exodus, OUR Exodus, obediently leading us out of Exile into our Hope & Restoration as God's People.

Introduction: Structure, Recapitulation, Typology, Exodus

1. Structure: Three Frames ending with Fulfilled Prophecy
 - a. Mt. 2:15 - Flight into Egypt fulfills Hosea 11:1
 - b. Mt. 2:17-18 – Herod's Cruelty fulfills Jeremiah 31:15
 - c. Mt. 2:23 – Jesus the Nazarene fulfills the Prophets
2. Recapitulation & Typology
 - a. Moses is a *Type* of Messiah prefiguring Jesus
 - b. Israelite History is a *Type/Shadow* of the Christ
 - c. Jesus *Recapitulates* the narratives of the Old Testament – Both individuals and the nation
 - d. God Retells the Redemptive Story over and over, all pointing to His Son, Jesus Christ
3. Last Week: *Exodus* - Matthew 2:13-15 Fulfills Hosea 11:1
 - a. Hosea prophesied a Future Second, New Exodus
 - b. Jesus Inaugurated & IS the Second, New Exodus
 - c. Jesus coming out of *Herodian* Israel, fleeing the wicked king's brutality, is like Moses & the Hebrews *exiting* Egypt in the Exodus
 - d. Jesus as our New Exodus fulfills what Israel in its disobedience failed to do (**Hosea 1:1-4, 10-11**)
 - e. We need His righteous fulfillment to bring us out of bondage to Sin and Death and into Eternal Life

Exile: The Beast...Herod...God's Pawn (vv 16-18; Jer 31:15)

1. Historical Event: Herod's Perspective was that he was deceived by the Wise Men (The Reality – God protects His Son by warning and directing the Magi home)
 - a. Herod was a Beastly Man – Slaughtering innocence and anyone in his way to gain power
 - b. When Jesus came into this world, Satanic forces opposed & sought to destroy him (**Rev. 12:3-4**)
 - c. Jesus is dangerous to the world (**Rom. 12:5**)
2. Theological Intent: God is In Control, Herod is a Pawn
3. Prophetic Fulfillment: Jesus in Exile Succeeds
 - a. Rachel – Wife of Jacob (Israel); Ramah – where Rachel was buried outside Bethlehem
 - b. Historical Context of Jeremiah 15: Northern Kingdom of Israel destroyed, Judah stands to fall to Babylon

- c. Rachel died giving birth to Benjamin, and named him *Son of My Tears* – Jacob changed it to *Son of My Right Hand*
 - d. Tribe of Benjamin was devastated in 586 BC by Babylon
 - e. Rachel stands as the mother of God's people weeping as the sons of Israel were killed or exiled
 - f. Ramah was used by the Babylonians as a transit camp for prisoners of war, chained together to march to Babylon
 - g. Matthew sees in Herod's slaughter of the innocents as a fulfillment of Jeremiah – a recapitulation of Israel's Exile
4. The Context of Jeremiah
 - a. Rachel's tears are surrounded by God's comfort
 - b. Matthew shows in Jesus that Rachel's tears at near an end
 - c. Jesus' exile was marked by sinlessness, an exile of holiness which produces comfort for God's people (**Jer 31:16-20**)
 - d. Sorrow would be turned to Praise & Worship (**31:7, 12-13**)
5. How does the Lord do this? Ransom, Redemption, and Restoration (**Jeremiah 31:11, 23**)
 - a. The Virgin Birth (**Jeremiah 31:21-22**)
 - b. The New Covenant (**Jer 31:31-34; 1 Corinthians 11:25**)
6. Exile gives way to a Return with Hope and Redemption

Return: The Branch...Jesus...God's Lowly King (vv 19-23)

1. The Historical Event: Herod dies and Jesus returns to Nazareth
 - a. Herod's son, Archelaus is in power – worse than Herod
 - i. Eventually deposed by Rome because of his brutality
 - b. Joseph is afraid to go back to Bethlehem – goes to hometown of Nazareth
2. Prophetic Fulfillment – the Prophets would be Fulfilled that Jesus would be called a Nazarene
 - a. There are no direct prophetic quotes from the Bible that Jesus would be called a Nazarene
 - b. Two ways this was fulfilled: Identity/Title and Experience
 - i. Identity and Title
 1. Nazareth was named after the Hope of the Messiah
 2. *Nezer* is Hebrew for Branch – which is a title connected to the Messiah who would come from David's lineage to Redeem God's People (**Is 11:1**)
 - ii. The Messiah's Experience: Lowly, Despised, Rejected
 1. Nazareth was a despised town (**John 1:46**)
 2. Messiah would be despised, rejected (**Is 53:2-3**)
 3. Messiah would be marked by humility from the very beginning, & eventually cut off/crucified (**Daniel 9:26a, Isaiah 53:4-5**)
3. Jesus came to the least, lowest, broken – into the tears of Rachel's world to provide eternal hope for the Contrite in Heart