

**INTERNATIONAL BIBLE CHURCH (IBC) LINZ**

**Flötzerweg 156 (Neue Heimat) 4030 Linz**

*...then you shall know the truth and the truth will set you free Jn.8:32*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE**

**03.07.16**

**Theme: Massacre of Infants**

**Memory verse:** *Jeremiah chapter thirty-one verse fifteen: "Thus saith the Lord; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, anti bitter weeping; Rachel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not".*

**Text: Matthew 2: 12-23**

God warned the wise men in a dream of the real intentions of Herod, so they did not return to him as he requested. The angel of the Lord also warned Joseph in a dream to escape to Egypt with the child in order to prevent Herod from slaying Him. Joseph promptly obeyed. Had Joseph delayed in obeying the instructions, Herod could have killed the child. When Herod discovered that he was outsmarted by the wise men, he revealed his true intentions by ordering the massacre of the infants from two years old and under, in the area of Bethlehem. He hoped that by so doing Christ will be killed. However it was Herod that eventually died while Christ lived.

We learn sundry lessons from the way God protected the boy Jesus from Herod's destructive actions. Man has to co-operate with God by obeying divine instruction. This requires that each of us should be spiritually sensitive and clean from all things that can hinder our smooth communion with God. We also see that God may allow some difficulties to arise in our lives but He overrules and watches us even in Hardship and He always sees us through. God could have killed Herod and spared His son the trouble of going to Egypt, but He allowed it for the prophecy to be fulfilled.

Finally, we see several prophetic scriptures fulfilled on these events that surround the early life of our Lord Jesus Christ. The first is that the wise men will worship Him and bring Him gifts (Psalms 72: 10, Isaiah 60: 3, 6, 9). The second is that He will be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5: 2). The third is that He would be called out of Egypt (Numbers 24: 8, Hosea 11: 1). The fourth is the massacre of Infants (Jeremiah 31: 15). The fifth is that He will be a Nazarene r (Isaiah 11: 1). The fulfilment of these scriptures is an assurance that all the words of Thy Lord concerning a believer shall come to pass. In the same way all what is written concerning sinners will also come to pass!!!!