



PREPARING for
CHRISTMAS

Preparing for Christmas: Israel

Matthew 1-4

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- ***Matthew 1:*** Is full of age old promises being fulfilled
- ***Matthew 2:*** Is a retelling of Israel's history applied to Jesus

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- ***Matthew 3:*** John the Baptist confronts the Pharisee and tells them they are not true children of Abraham
- ***Matthew 4:*** Jesus is tested in the wilderness but in a twist does not fall into sin and disobedience

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Matthew 2:13-15 (ESV)

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child,

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Matthew 2:13-15 (ESV)

to destroy him.”¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

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God's promises are fulfilled in this baby, not only for Israel but for all who would repent and trust Jesus!

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Hosea 11:1 (ESV)

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.

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Genesis 32:28 (ESV)

Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.”

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Israel's exodus from Egypt was taken already by the OT prophets as a prefiguring of the ultimate Messianic salvation, and Matthew's quotation here thus reinforces his presentation of the childhood history of Jesus as the dawning of the Messianic age.

-R. T. France

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Matthew 4:4 (ESV)

But he answered, “It is written, “ ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

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Deuteronomy 8:3 (ESV)

And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD

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- 1. Wake up Christmas morning and know that you have received in full, the thing hoped for in Jesus.**
- 2. Wake up and realize that Jesus is the only way to break the pattern of sin and find healing.**

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3. Wake up Christmas morning and savor the God-man who has saved us.
4. Wake up and realize God's promises are fulfilled in this baby, not only for Israel but for all who would repent and trust Jesus!

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If you would like to talk to Bryan about the sermon,
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