



Protected, Preserved and Prospered

“the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him” (Matthew 2:13).

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“12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. 13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him. 14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: 15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. 16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, 18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.” (Matthew 2:12-18).

God’s protection of Jesus paints a glorious picture of His protection on His children. His Omnipotence, Omniscient and Omnipresence are the attributes that guarantees His ability to protect:

- 1) Despite their wisdom, the wise men could not detect the sinister motives in Herod’s covert request to be led to where Jesus was. “The heart (of man) is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jeremiah 17:9). It took God who “searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts” (1 Chronicles 28:9), to detect the intentions of Herod and warn the wise men not to return to Herod with information on where baby Jesus was.
- 2) God did not stop there, knowing exactly what Herod would do in his effort to exterminate Jesus, warned Joseph in a dream “Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy

“And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son” (Matthew 2:15)

him” (vs 13). This, not only got Jesus out of harm’s way, but also blinded Herod to think that he had accomplished his goal when he killed all children that were in Bethlehem (vs 16).

- 3) God, not only protected Jesus, but also provided for Him, Mary and Joseph. When Mary and Joseph took their journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, they did not envisage a trip to a foreign country, Egypt, and therefore, would have only taken enough provision to last for their anticipated duration of the journey to Bethlehem. God in His foreknowledge had made the wise men to travel from the east, bringing enough presents that would have sustained this family in a foreign country for as long as they needed to be there. No one can outwit God.
- 4) The flight of the young family to Egypt and the nefarious acts of Herod only served to fulfil Biblical prophecies, confirming the deity of Jesus and accuracy of God’s word. This should inspire faith in all on the reliability of God’s word.

God still protects today. There is no circumstance or situation that you will ever encounter that is a surprise to God, or that He has not already made adequate provision for. I Peter 3:13 assures us “And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good?”. The obvious answer is none.

Psalm 23, Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 91; Isaiah 46:4 and many other scriptures assures us of God’s protection and provision. We should let our hearts be settled on God’s word that He will not forget to keep His own. In God you are protected, preserved and established as your life is hid in Christ in God (Colossians 3:3).