

MESSAGE NOTES**SCRIPTURE PASSAGE**

2019 Christmas Devotional –
The Gospel is Better

Christmas Sermon series:
Come, Thou long expected Jesus

Today's message:
*The birth of Jesus, the Savior,
God with us*

This week: Matthew 1:18-25

The birth of the Messiah 1:18a

What's the Messiah?
What's that matter?

The role of Mary 1:18

The role of Joseph 1:19-21

Joseph as a type of Christ

The role of the prophet 1:22-23

What was Isaiah's message?

Jesus is born 1:24-25

The role of Jesus 1:21-22

He saves people from their sins
He is God with us

Come, Thou long expected Jesus

Matthew 1:18-25 ¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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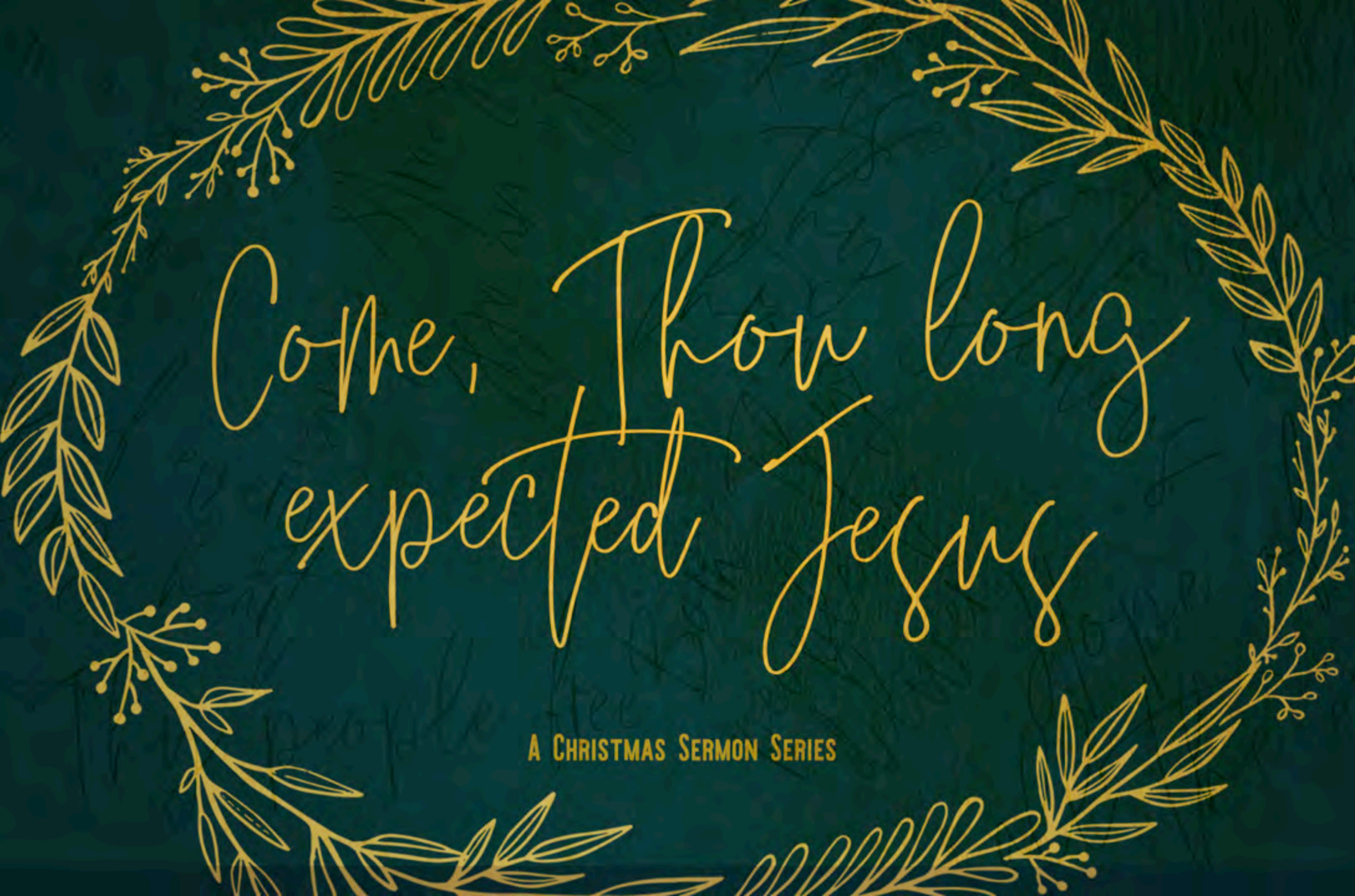
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A CHRISTMAS SERMON SERIES

Cool Guy From Middle School Still Sporting Phat Pair Of JNCOs

NEWS IN PHOTOS

December 3, 2013

VOL 49 ISSUE 49

Local



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New Gym Member Lingers By Free Weights For Sev... (Healthy Living, by Allegra)

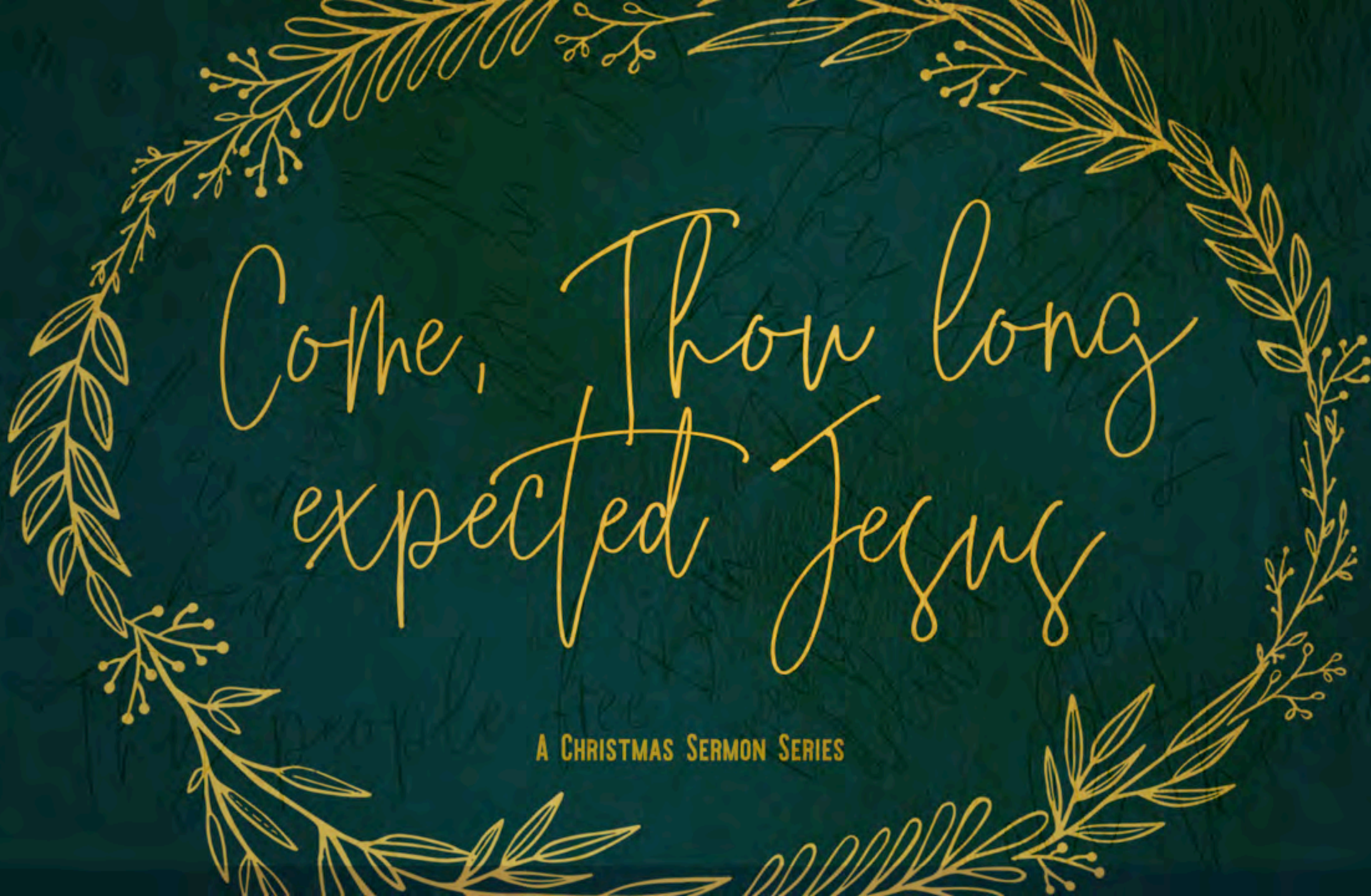
Man Who Stopped Dieting Already Seeing Results (Healthy Living, by Allegra)

Tips For Living Longer (Healthy Living, by Allegra)

Marathon Training Tips (Healthy Living, by Allegra)







Come, Thou long
expected Jesus

A CHRISTMAS SERMON SERIES

God's Protecting Hand Amidst Persecution & Suffering

Matthew 2:13- 23

Matthew 2:13 - 15

- ¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”
- ¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Matthew 2:16 - 18

- ¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷ Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:
 - ¹⁸ “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.”

Matthew 2: 19 - 23

- ¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰ and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”
- ²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³ and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Fleeing to Egypt

v. 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, to destroy him."

- This is the second time an angel has appeared to Joseph.
- Notice he doesn't say, "take your son" he says "take the child."

Why Egypt?

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- Pragmatic - There was a large Jewish community in Alexandria, Egypt.

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- Persecution - Because Herod sought to destroy the Messiah.

Herod the Paranoid Murderer

- v. 16 - Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

Why Egypt?

- Pragmatic - There was a large Jewish community in Alexandria, Egypt.
- Persecution - Because Herod sought to destroy the Messiah.
- Providential - Fulfilment of prophecy.

Prophecy Fulfilled - Out of Egypt

- Vs 14 – 15 - And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt. 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.”

The book of Hosea

- The message in the book of Hosea is God's faithful love in the midst of an unfaithful people.

Hosea 11:1

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

Jesus has to go into Egypt
before coming out of Egypt

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before coming out of Egypt

Before being saved we were all in a spiritual Egypt:

- Enslaved to our sinful natures.
- Enslaved to the fallen condition of the world.

John 8:34

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.

Romans 6:20 - 21

²⁰ When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. ²¹ What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death!

Jesus has to go into Egypt
before coming out Egypt

Jesus physically entering Egypt is a spiritual representation of Jesus coming into our lives to take us out of our spiritual Egypt.

“Just as God brought the nation of Israel out of Egypt to inaugurate his original covenant with them, so again God is bringing the Messiah, who fulfills the hopes of Israel, out of Egypt as he is about to inaugurate his new covenant.”

- Craig L. Blomberg (New American Commentary)

Prophecy Fulfilled – Weeping Rachel

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- 17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: 18 “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

Prophecy Fulfilled – Weeping Rachel

- Jeremiah 31:15 - In the Old Testament context this verse is about mothers lamenting their sons being led into exile due to their sin.

Prophecy Fulfilled – The Nazarene

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- 19 – 23 But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” 21 And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. 23 And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Prophecy Fulfilled – The Nazarene

- Herod had 3 sons, Archelaus, Antipas, & Philip.

The Problem w/ this Prophecy

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- It's not found in the Old Testament.
- He uses the word "prophets" in plural, perhaps summarizing a broader scriptural theme. There are 3 possibilities:

3 Possibilities to the Nazarene Prophecy

1. Matthew is doing a play on words w/ the Hebrew word nezer, which means branch and the word Nazareth, which doesn't derive from nezer.
 - Isaiah 11:1 - A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

3 Possibilities to the Nazarene Prophecy

2. Matthew could be referring to a commonly known prophecy that wasn't recorded.
 - Jude quotes a prophecy by Enoch that isn't recorded in the OT (Jude 1:14).
 - Paul attributes a quote to Jesus that's not recorded (Acts 20:35).
 - John tells us Jesus did many works that were not recorded (John 21:25).

3 Possibilities to the Nazarene Prophecy

3. Many prophets predicted Jesus would be scorned, despised, and rejected. Nazareth had long been used a slang term for obscurity or contempt. Thus, The most likely possibility is that Jesus would need to be called a Nazarene to give people another reason to despise him.

Come thou long expected Jesus

- Jesus went into Egypt to take us out of slavery.
- Jesus entered into our suffering to comfort us.
- Jesus takes on a shameful identity to give us a new Identity.

Come thou long expected Jesus

- Some of this is fulfilled now, but will be completely fulfilled in his second coming!

Gospel Application

- Will you put your trust in Jesus to take you out of slavery?
 - Will you run to God to comfort you?
 - Will you allow Christ to give you a new identity?