

Cultural, Historical, and Geographic Significance

© 2022 Talmidim Way



Matthew 2/Luke 2:39-52

1

Cultural, Historical, and Geographic Significance



Matthew 2/Luke 2:39-52

2

Acts 17:11 (ESV)

Now these (Berean) Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Unless otherwise indicated, all photographs are from Photo Companion to the Bible, copyright © 2012-2022 Todd Bolen, bibleplaces.com. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



3

God, we praise You for your intricately designed Word which teaches us how to follow You. Now guard our minds and our hearts and draw us closer to you as we study. Let us study so that we may become *talmidim* (disciples) that are doers of your word.

Give us “Acts 17:11” discernment.

In the name of Yeshua our Messiah. אמן!



4

Roadmap

Herod, not born King of the Jews

The not-3 wise men

Flight to Egypt and Passover Exodus

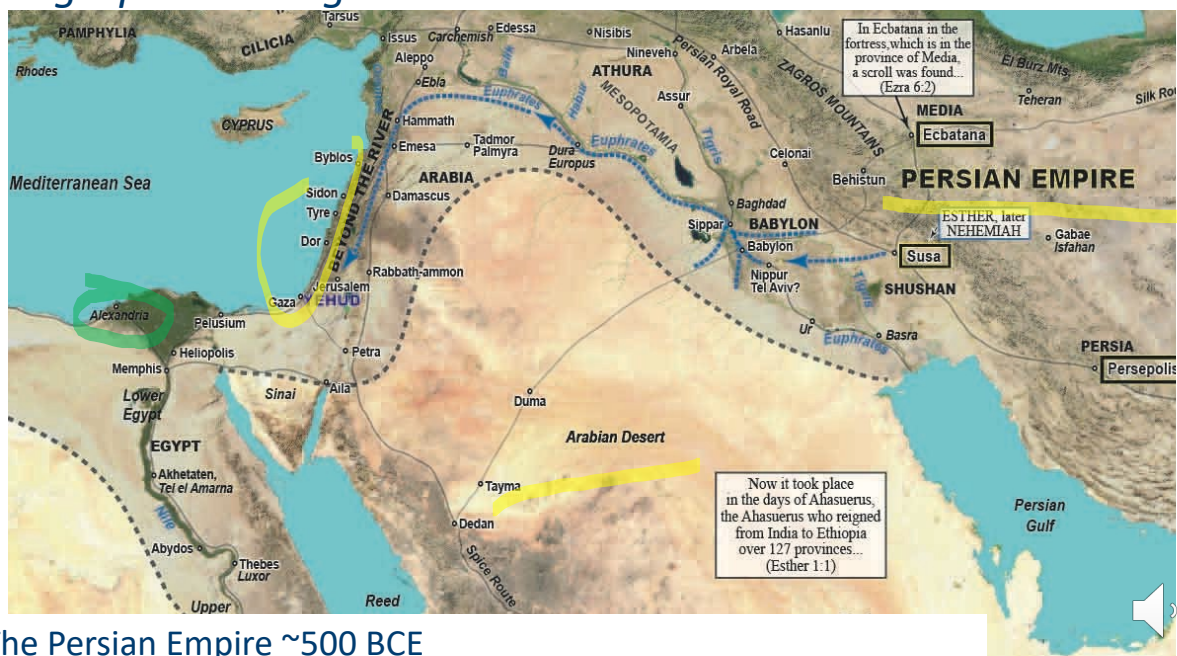
Return to Nazareth

A 12-year-old at the Temple



5

Geographic Setting

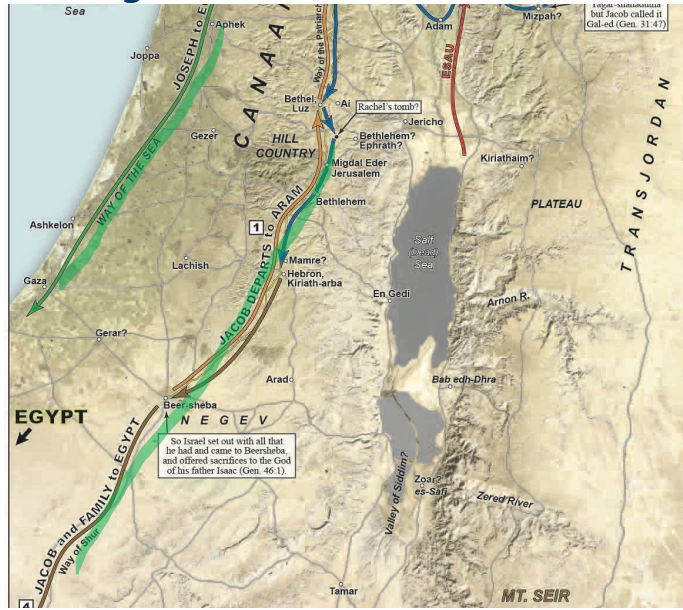


The Persian Empire ~500 BCE



6

Geographical Setting



Movement of Joseph and Jacob to Egypt



7


Geographical Setting





Political Borders at the time of Jesus



8

<h3>Matthew 2:1-2</h3> <p>Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the <i>loudaioi</i>? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”</p>	<h3>References</h3> <p>Num 24:17 I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; Isa 2:6 they are full of things from the east</p> 
--	---

9

<h3>Matthew 2:3-4</h3> <p>When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.</p>	<h3>References</h3> <p><i>Jerusalem (aerial view from the southeast)</i></p>  
--	---

10

Herod was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him



Three men on camels approaching Bethlehem

Matthew 2:3

11

Matthew 2:5-6	References
<p>They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.””</p>	<p>Mic 5:2 But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.</p> <p>2Sa 5:2 And the LORD said to (David), ‘You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel.’”</p>

12

Out of you will come forth a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel



Shepherd with flock of sheep near Horvat Radum


Matthew 2:6 

13

Matthew 2:7-8	References
<p>Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”</p>	<p>Isa 2:6 For you have rejected your people, the house of Jacob, because they are full of things from the east and of fortune-tellers like the Philistines, and they strike hands with the children of foreigners.</p>



14

Matthew 2:9-10	References
<p>After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.</p>	

15

Matthew 2:11-12	References
<p>And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.</p>	<p>Isa 60:5-6 The wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.</p> <p>Psa 45:8 your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.</p>  

16

Matthew 2:13	References
<p>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.”</p>	<p>Gen 37:28 Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt.</p>



17

Matthew 2:14-15	References
<p>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.”</p>	<p>Hosea 11:1-3 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more they were called, the more they went away; they kept sacrificing to the Baals and burning offerings to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk; I took them up by their arms, but they did not know that I healed them.</p>



18

And he arose and took the young Child and His mother by night and departed to Egypt



Courtyard mosaic of Jesus's family in Egypt at the Hanging Church in Old Cairo

Matthew 2:14

19

Memory Verse




Mat 2:15
This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

20

<h2>Matthew 2:16</h2>	<h2>References</h2>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Exo 1:22 Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall cast into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live.”</p>



21

<h2>Matthew 2:17-18</h2>	<h2>References</h2>
<p>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: “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.”</p>	<p>Gen 42:36 And Jacob their father said to them, “You have bereaved me of my children: Joseph is no more, and Simeon is no more, and now you would take Benjamin. All this has come against me.”</p> <p>Jer 31:15 Thus says the LORD: “A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more.”</p> <p><i>Jewish men praying at Rachel's Tomb near Bethlehem</i></p> 



22

Matthew 2:19-21	References
<p>But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 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.” And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.</p>	<p>Exo 12:39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had brought out of Egypt, for it was not leavened, because they were thrust out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.</p>



23

Matthew 2:22-23	Luke 2:39-40	References
<p>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. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the <u>prophets</u> might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.</p>	<p>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.</p>	<p>Isa 11:1 There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. Zec 3:8 Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign: behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. Jer 23:5 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.</p>



24

they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth



Nazareth (aerial view from the south)

Luke 2:39

25

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom



Carpenter shop

Luke 2:40

26

And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom



Sepphoris Roman Theater

Luke 2:40

27

Luke 2:41-42

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom.

References

Pirkei Avot 5:21 At five years of age the study of Scripture; At ten the study of Mishnah; **At thirteen subject to the commandments**; At fifteen the study of Talmud; At eighteen the bridal canopy; At twenty for pursuit [of livelihood]; At thirty the peak of strength; At forty wisdom; At fifty able to give counsel; At sixty old age; At seventy fullness of years;



28

And His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover



Men praying at Western Wall during Passover

Luke 2:41

29

When He was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the feast



Bar mitzvah at Western Wall

Luke 2:42

30

Luke 2:43-45

And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in **Jerusalem**. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

References

31


But supposing Him to be in the company, they went a day's journey





Ascent of Adummim near Jericho

Luke 2:44

32

Luke 2:46-48	References
<p>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished.</p>	

33

Luke 2:48-50	References
<p>And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them.</p>	<p>Exo 20:12 “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.” <i>Temple Mount walkway with trees</i></p>  

34

Walking In His Dust

Approved Talmidim Are Not Ashamed



2nd Timothy 2:15

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.



35

Luke 2:51-52

And he went down with them and came to **Nazareth** and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

References

Nazareth



36

Following the Messiah:



<https://youtu.be/6HrbN3fOp5I>



37

Lesson 5 Application

“No one would have been attracted to Jesus because of his education or his zip code.

If anyone was attracted to Jesus it was for what He taught, what He did, and who they believed Him to be.

Are we attracted to Jesus for the right reasons?” – Jeremy DeHut



38

References

Bolen, Todd. "Luke 2." PowerPoint handout, Santa Clarita, CA, 2018.

———. "Matthew 2." PowerPoint handout, Santa Clarita, CA, 2018.

Dehut, Jeremy, with Barry Britnell. *Following the Messiah: Episodes 1-5 Study guide*. Appian Media. 2017.

Keener, Craig S. *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*. 2nd edition. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic, 2014.

Lancaster, Daniel T. "The Nazarene." In *Chronicles of the Messiah*, edited by Boaz D. Michael and Stephen D. Lancaster. Second Edition. Marshfield, MO: First Fruits of Zion, 2014.

Schlegel, William. "The Land and the Bible: A Historical Geographical Companion to the Satellite Bible Atlas," September 2015. <https://www.bibleplaces.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/The-Land-and-the-Bible.pdf>.

———. *The Satellite Bible Atlas by William Schlegel*. Israel: William Schlegel, 2013.

Stern, David H. *Jewish New Testament Commentary: A Companion Volume to the Jewish New Testament*. Reprint edition. Clarksville, Md.: Lederer Messianic Publications, 1992.



39



40