

Flight into Egypt

Matthew 2:13–15, 19–23

*When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night,
and departed into Egypt. Matthew 2:14*

When Jesus was young, an “angel of the Lord appeared 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).

Obeying this command, Joseph took Mary and Jesus to Egypt, traveling at night (see Matthew

2:14). When Herod died and the danger had passed, an angel again appeared to Joseph in a dream, this time telling him, “Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child’s life” (Matthew 2:20; see also Matthew 2:15, 19). Joseph took Mary and Jesus back to Israel, and they lived in Nazareth (see Matthew 2:21–23).

Summary

When Jesus was young, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt. Joseph was warned to stay in Egypt until the angel declared it was safe to

return, because King Herod would seek to kill Jesus. Joseph did as the angel instructed, and Jesus was protected from harm.

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