



# THE DOWNRIVER DISCIPLES PROJECT

explores what the Bible says about

## THE RETURN TO NAZARETH



As we previously learned from the [Flight into Egypt](#) (1), the [The Holy Family](#) (2) had fled to escape the wrath of [King Herod](#) (3). The Judean ruler had learned of the [Birth of Jesus](#) (4) and, to maintain his power base, was looking to have the infant [Messiah](#) (5) killed. To accomplish this, Herod ordered the [Massacre of the Innocents](#) (6).

An [Angel of the Lord](#) (7) interceded and came to [Joseph](#) (8) in a [dream](#) (9), telling him to escape into Egypt with [Mary](#) (10) and [Jesus](#) (11). By doing so, they all avoided harm; they remained in Egypt until hearing that it was safe to return home. This brings us up to speed to the account of the Holy Family returning to Nazareth ([Matthew 2:19-23](#)).

After some years passed, word finally came to Joseph in another dream through an Angel of the Lord. He told Joseph, "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."

The ever [obedient](#) (12) Joseph followed the Angel's instructions, but when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his deceased father, Herod, he was afraid to go there.

Having been warned in a dream, Joseph withdrew his family to the district of Galilee, and they made a home in the town of Nazareth. We do not hear of the Holy Family again until the account of [Young Jesus in the Temple](#) (13).

Footnotes are listed below. Modifications are welcome at [goodnews@downriverdisciples.com](mailto:goodnews@downriverdisciples.com).

### FOOTNOTES:

- (1) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/flight-into-egypt>
- (2) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/the-holy-family>
- (3) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/herod>
- (4) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/the-birth-of-jesus>
- (5) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/jesus-the-messiah>
- (6) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/massacre-of-the-innocents-1>
- (7) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/angel-of-the-lord>
- (8) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/joseph>
- (9) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/dreams-of-the-bible>
- (10) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/mary-mother-of-jesus>
- (11) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/jesus-christ>
- (12) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/obedience>
- (13) <https://www.downriverdisciples.com/young-jesus-in-the-temple>

[www.downriverdisciples.com/return-to-nazareth](https://www.downriverdisciples.com/return-to-nazareth)