

“Post-Christmas Blues”

INTRODUCTION: Some suffer from “*Post-Christmas Blues*”.

- Joseph is often ignored in the Christmas story ...
- Luke sums up the next 12 years in 2 verses ... Luke 2:39-40

Matthew 2:13 – God speaks to Joseph in dreams – **1:20, 2:19, 2:22**

- God tells Joseph to flee into Egypt.

1.- JOSEPH’S OBEDIENCE – 2:14

- They hadn’t planned for such a trip, but Joseph just OBEYS.

2.- GOD’S PROVISION – 2:11

- When God CALLS, He always PROVIDES.

3.- HEROD’S ANGER – 2:13b, 2:16

- Herod was a mean, vicious person ... Caesar Augustus - *“It were better to be King Herod’s pig, than his son.”*
- This was a fulfillment of prophecy – **2:17-18**
 - 1 “*Rachel’s*” descendents were being slaughtered.
 - 2 “*Ramah*” was 5 miles north of Jerusalem.

4.- GOD’S PLAN – 2:15

- This was God’s plan, recorded in prophecy.
- Joseph & Mary weren’t alone in Egypt.

2:19 – God told Joseph of Herod’s death.

2:20 – Joseph isn’t given a specific destination.

2:21 – God didn’t want His Son to be raised in Egypt.

2:22 – Archelaus was worse than his father, Herod.

2:23 – Nazareth was famous for not being famous!

CONCLUSION: LESSONS ...

- 1 The safest place to be, is where God leads you.
 - 2 Christians aren’t exempt from troubles ... Satan is behind all our troubles, problems and evil.
 - 2 God is in charge ... the Christmas story was “*planned out*”.
- God is STILL in charge!