

JESUS' YOUTH – Life of Jesus Lesson 6

NARRATOR: After the Magi return to their own land, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus continue to live in Bethlehem. One night as Joseph is sleeping, he has a dream.

ANGEL: (To Joseph) Get up! 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!

JOSEPH: (waking up) Oh no! That wasn't just a dream. The Lord was warning me! Mary! Wake up! We have to go!

MARY: (waking up, startled) What? Go where? What has happened?

JOSEPH: An angel just appeared to me in a dream! He said we must go to Egypt. King Herod is going to be looking for Jesus, and we have to take him away from here!

MARY: Looking for Jesus? Why would King Herod want to find our baby? What does he want with him?

JOSEPH: He....well, he wants to kill him.

MARY: Oh, no! Not my baby!

JOSEPH: Don't worry, Mary. The Lord will take care of us all. Hasn't he sent an angel to warn us? Come on. Everything will work out for the best.

NARRATOR: So Joseph takes the child and his mother during the night and leaves for Egypt, where they stay in safety. Meanwhile, back in Judea...

HEROD: (very angry) Where are those Magi? I thought I had them completely convinced that I wanted to go and worship this new king too. But they haven't come back! Now how will I find and kill this other king of the Jews? Only I will be the King of the Jews! Wait! I don't have to find him? Am I not the king? I know from what the Magi said, that the new king is less than 2 years old. So I'll just kill them all! Guards! These are my orders! Kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who are two years old and under?

NARRATOR: Herod the Great's cruel orders are carried out. All the baby boys in Bethlehem and the surrounding area are killed. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah is fulfilled: "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." After a time, Herod dies. (Herod dies) Once again, as Joseph and Mary sleep...

ANGEL: 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.

JOSEPH: (waking up) Another vision! We can go home! Yes! Mary, wake up! We can go back home now! An angel has appeared to me in another dream. King Herod has died and it is now safe to go home to the land of Israel!

MARY: This is wonderful news! Let's go at once! (Mary and Joseph make preparations and start home)

JOSEPH: (meeting a stranger as they travel) Hello! Have you just come from Judea? We hear that King Herod has died.

STRANGER: Yes, that is true. But of course, his son Herod Archelaus is now reigning in his place, so we are not much better off than before. (he walks his way)