

# **SERIES: GRATITUDE & BLESSINGS**

**DATE:** Sunday, New Year's Day, January 1, 2023

**SERMON:** The Wonderful Words of Christmas: *Future*

**SCRIPTURE:** Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

## **Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23**

[13] When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "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."

[14] So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt,

[15] where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

[19] After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt

[20] and said, "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."

[21] So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

[22] But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee,

[23] and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

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***When life doesn't turn out the way you expect, what should you do?***

**1. Do what the \_\_\_\_\_.**

*Ecclesiastes 9:10* Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.

**2. Do what \_\_\_\_\_ you.**

- Seek His voice in \_\_\_\_\_, in \_\_\_\_\_, and in \_\_\_\_\_.

**3. Live \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Even in \_\_\_\_\_, you can live life as God \_\_\_\_\_.
- *Psalm 118:24* The LORD has done it this very day; let us rejoice today and be glad.
- "This one \_\_\_\_\_ day"

**4. \_\_\_\_\_ in all that you do.**

- *Colossians 3:17* And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

# Lagniappe

*Welcome to worship, and Happy New Year !*

My mother used to say that whatever you do on January 1<sup>st</sup>, you will do the remainder of the year. She wasn't superstitious, but she did love little sayings about the new year.

If she was right about that saying, then, you and I are going to have a good year of worship and devotion to the Lord. Above all else, this should be our goal for the new year.

Let me encourage you to get the new year off to a fast start by seeking God and His direction in your life. You can do this by getting involved in a Connect Group and taking advantage of opportunities to grow and learn such as our Wednesday night activities. All of these begin new this week. I hope you will take every opportunity and make the most of it.

Next week we are blessed to have Frank Turek, one of the leading authorities of biblical apologetics, the science of giving a reason for the hope that you have in Christ. Dr. Turek will be with us for both Sunday worship services.

Please use this as an opportunity to invite your friends and family to join with us in worship.

May God bless us in 2023!