

CHRIST AND HIS CHILDHOOD

DAILY READINGS:

Monday: Micah 4:1-5:2
 Tuesday: Matthew 2:1-12
 Wednesday: Matthew 2:13-23
 Thursday: Hosea 11:1-12
 Friday: Jeremiah 31:1-15
 Saturday: Isaiah 11:1-10
 Sunday: Jeremiah 23:1-8

Luke 2:52

And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

耶穌的智慧 and 身量（或作：年紀），並神和人喜愛他的心，都一齊增長。

INTRODUCTION:

Many of the details of the coming of the Messiah were foretold by the Old Testament prophets. Some of the prophecies were plain: He would be of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Judah, the descendant of David. Some of the prophecies are more obscure. Matthew calls our attention to four prophecies regarding the birth and youth of the Messiah (see [Matthew 2:6, 15, 18, 23](#)).

Matthew 2:6	Matthew 2:15	Matthew 2:18	Matthew 2:23
And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. <i>(Micah 5:2)</i> 猶大地的伯利恆阿，你在猶大諸城中並不是最小的；因為將來有一位君王要從你那裡出來，牧養我以色列民。	And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet <i>(Hosea 11:1)</i> , saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. 住在那裡，直到希律死了。這是要應驗主藉先知所說的話，說：我從埃及召出我的兒子來。	In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not. <i>(Jeremiah 31:15)</i> 在拉瑪聽見號咷大哭的聲音，是拉結哭他兒女，不肯受安慰，因為他們都不在了。	And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene. 到了一座城，名叫拿撒勒，就住在那裡。這是要應驗先知所說，他將稱為拿撒勒人的話了。

LESSON NOTES:

Bethlehem and Egypt: When the wise men arrived at Jerusalem, they asked, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews?" The question troubled Herod the Great and all the city ([Matthew 2:3](#)). He called for the chief priests and scribes and demanded them to reveal where the Messiah was to be born ([v. 4](#)). They quoted the prophet Micah ([5:2](#)) and assured Herod that Bethlehem was the place. Herod enquired diligently at what date the wise men had first observed the star. No doubt he wished to determine the age of the new born King ([v. 7](#)). He then sent them to Bethlehem urging them to search for the child and then word to him so that he might "worship him also." As the wise men started toward Bethlehem, their star appeared again and led them to the house where young Jesus was. There they worshipped Him and presented their treasure to Him. They were warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod and so they went back a different way. Joseph, also,

was warned in a dream that Herod would seek to destroy the young child. He was advised to take the young child and His mother and flee to Egypt (v. 13). Perhaps the wise men's gifts supplied the expense of the journey. The family left Bethlehem at once (v. 14).

The wise men's question troubled Herod the Great and all the city

Matthew 2:3	When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 希律王聽見了，就心裡不安；耶路撒冷合城的人也都不安。
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Herod demanded to know where Christ was to be born

Matthew 2:4	And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 他就召齊了祭司長和民間的文士，問他們說：基督當生在何處？
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The chief priests and scribes quoted Micah 5:2

Micah 5:2	But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. 伯利恆、以法他啊，你在猶大諸城中為小，將來必有一位從你那裡出來，在以色列中為我作掌權的；他的根源從亙古，從太初就有。
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Herod wished to determine the age of the new born King

Matthew 2:7	Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 當下，希律暗暗的召了博士來，細問那星是甚麼時候出現的，
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Joseph obeyed and departed right away to Egypt

Matthew 2:13,14	¹³ And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth 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. 他們去後，有主的使者向約瑟夢中顯現，說：起來！帶著小孩子同他母親逃往埃及，住在那裡，等我吩咐你；因為希律必尋找小孩子，要除滅他。 ¹⁴ When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: 約瑟就起來，夜間帶著小孩子和他母親往埃及去，
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When Herod realized that the wise men had failed to return, he was very angry (v. 16). The mad monarch who had executed his own sons in fits of jealousy now determined to kill all babies in the vicinity of Bethlehem. Accordingly, he had all the children in and around Bethlehem under two years of age killed.

Matthew 2:16	¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet (<i>Jeremiah 31:15</i>), saying, 希律見自己被博士愚弄，就大大發怒，差人將伯利恆城裡並四境所有的男孩，照著他向博士仔細查問的時候，凡兩歲以裡的，都殺盡了。 ¹⁷ 這就應了先知耶利米的話，說：
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Then the prophecy of Jeremiah was fulfilled: "In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not" (v. 18). In the context in Jeremiah it seems to be a picture of Rachel rising from her tomb, at Bethlehem

(which is still to this day), and weeping over her descendants going into captivity. Matthew, however, applies it to the slaughter of the children by Herod.

THE DEATH OF RACHEL

Genesis 35:19	Genesis 48:7
<p>And Rachel died, and was buried in the way to Ephrath, which is Bethlehem.</p> <p>拉結死了，葬在以法他的路旁；以法他就是伯利恆。</p>	<p>And as for me, when I came from Padan, Rachel died by me in the land of Canaan in the way, when yet there was but a little way to come unto Ephrath: and I buried her there in the way of Ephrath; the same is Bethlehem.</p> <p>至於我，我從巴旦來的時候，拉結死在我眼前，在迦南地的路上，離以法他還有一段路程，我就把他葬在以法他的路上〈以法他就是伯利恆〉。</p>

MATTHEW, APPLIES THE WORD IN JEREMIAH TO THE SLAUGHTER OF THE CHILDREN BY HEROD.

Matthew 2:18	Jeremiah 31:15
<p>In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.</p> <p>在拉瑪聽見號咷大哭的聲音，是拉結哭他兒女，不肯受安慰，因為他們都不在了。</p>	<p>Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.</p> <p>耶和華如此說：在拉瑪聽見號咷痛哭的聲音，是拉結哭他兒女，不肯受安慰，因為他們都不在了。</p>

When Herod finally died, Joseph once again received instruction in a dream to return to the land Israel (vv. 19, 20). The return fulfilled another obscure prophecy from Hosea (11:1): "Out of Egypt have I called my Son." If Matthew had not applied this prophecy to Christ it would be difficult to get the connection.

Matthew 2:19,20	<p>¹⁹But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,</p> <p>希律死了以後，有主的使者在埃及向約瑟夢中顯現，說：</p> <p>²⁰Saying, 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.</p> <p>起來！帶著小孩子和他母親往以色列地去，因為要害小孩子性命的人已經死了。</p>
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Nazareth: When Joseph realized that Archelaus was king in place of his father Herod, he feared to return to Judea. Once again through a dream he received instruction and accordingly went to Nazareth where both he and Mary had lived before their marriage. This, also, Matthew tells us is the fulfillment of that "spoken by the prophets" (note plural form). The words which Matthew quotes from the prophets: "He shall be called a Nazarene," cannot be found in the Old Testament. "Nazarene" should not be confused with "Nazarite 拿細耳人". A Nazarite, such as Sampson, never cut his hair or drank strong drink. Jesus was not a Nazarite.

The solution to this mystery seems to lie in the root meaning of the name Nazareth which is branch. The fact that Matthew makes the prophecies plural supports this explanation. Isaiah (11:1), Jeremiah (23:5; 33:15), and Zechariah (3: 8, 6:12) all speak of the Branch. The Messiah, Isaiah explains, was to be a Branch growing out of the root of Jesse (David's father). Jeremiah calls the promised one, a Branch and a King raised unto David and a Branch of righteousness grown up to David. Zechariah calls Him "my servant the Branch"

and, "the Branch (who) shall grow up out of his place... and build the temple of the Lord."

THE ROOT MEANING OF THE HEBREW NAME "NAZARETH" MEANS "BRANCH"

Isaiah 11:1	Jeremiah 23:5	Jeremiah 33:15	Zechariah 3:8	Zechariah 6:12
<p>And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:</p> <p>從耶西的本（原文是墩）必發一條；從他根生的枝子必結果實。</p>	<p>Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.</p> <p>耶和華說：日子將到，我要給大衛興起一個公義的苗裔；他必掌王權，行事有智慧，在地上施行公平和公義。</p>	<p>In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.</p> <p>當那日子，那時候，我必使大衛公義的苗裔長起來；他必在地上施行公平和公義。</p>	<p>Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.</p> <p>大祭司約書亞啊，你和坐在你面前的同伴們都當聽。他們是作預兆的。我必使我僕人發出的。</p>	<p>And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:</p> <p>對他說，萬軍之耶和華如此說：看哪，那名為大衛苗裔的，他要在本處長起來，並要建造耶和華的殿。</p>

At Nazareth Jesus was subject to His parents. At the age of twelve He went with His parents to Jerusalem. It was then that He remained behind hearing the doctors and asking them questions. Jesus explained to Mary and Joseph that He must be about His Father's business. Nevertheless Jesus returned to Nazareth and no doubt served as a carpenter's apprentice in Joseph's workshop until His baptism by John.

THE LESSONS:

The fulfillment of these prophecies came about in such a natural way that we might never have understood them. Thanks to Matthew we understand the fulfillment of these prophecies. Many of the prophecies regarding the last days and the Lord's return are taking place in a way much less spectacular than generally imagined. We ought to be aware of the forward moves of our Lord

God showed His tender care and direction for Mary, Joseph and the baby. In like manner, the Lord is interested in our family life. He will direct us where to live, when and where and how to travel. He cares about our occupation and will supply our needs. Let us consult Him about everything. "They, who trust Him wholly, find Him wholly true." (from the hymn "Like a River Glorious")

1 st Stanza	2 nd Stanza	3 rd Stanza
Like a river glorious, is God's perfect peace, Over all victorious, in its bright increase; Perfect, yet it floweth, fuller every day, Perfect, yet it groweth, deeper all the way.	Hidden in the hollow of His blessed hand, Never foe can follow, never traitor stand; Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care, Not a blast of hurry touch the spirit there.	Every joy or trial falleth from above, Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love; We may trust Him fully all for us to do. They who trust Him wholly find Him wholly true.

Refrain
Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest
Finding, as He promised, perfect peace and rest.

Monday: Micah 4:1-5:2

¹But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

末後的日子，耶和華殿的山必堅立，超乎諸山，高舉過於萬嶺；萬民都要流歸這山。

²And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

必有許多國的民前往，說：來吧，我們登耶和華的山，奔雅各神的殿。主必將他的道教訓我們；我們也要行他的路。因為訓誨必出於錫安；耶和華的言語必出於耶路撒冷。

³And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

他必在多國的民中施行審判，為遠方強盛的國斷定是非。他們要將刀打成犁頭，把槍打成鐮刀。這國不舉刀攻擊那國；他們也不再學習戰事。

⁴But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken it.

人人都要坐在自己葡萄樹下和無花果樹下，無人驚嚇。這是萬軍之耶和華親口說的。

⁵For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

萬民各奉己神的名而行；我們卻永永遠遠奉耶和華——我們神的名而行。

⁶In that day, saith the LORD, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;

耶和華說：到那日，我必聚集瘸腿的，招聚被趕出的和我所懲治的。

⁷And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

我必使瘸腿的為餘剩之民，使趕到遠方的為強盛之民。耶和華要在錫安山作王治理他們，從今直到永遠。

⁸And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

你這羊群的高臺、錫安城（原文是女子）的山哪，從前的權柄——就是耶路撒冷民（原文是女子）的國權——必歸與你。

⁹Now why dost thou cry out aloud? is there no king in thee? is thy counsellor perished? for pangs have taken thee as a woman in travail.

現在你為何大聲哭號呢？疼痛抓住你彷彿產難的婦人，是因你中間沒有君王麼？你的謀士滅亡了麼？

¹⁰Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail: for now shalt thou go forth out of the city, and thou shalt dwell in the field, and thou shalt go even to Babylon; there shalt thou be delivered; there the LORD shall redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies.

錫安的民（原文是女子）哪，你要疼痛劬勞，彷彿產難的婦人；因為你必從城裡出來，住在田野，到巴比倫去。在那裡要蒙解救；在那裡耶和華必救贖你脫離仇敵的手。

¹¹Now also many nations are gathered against thee, that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion. 現在有許多國的民聚集攻擊你，說：願錫安被玷污！願我們親眼見他遭報！

¹²But they know not the thoughts of the LORD, neither understand they his counsel: for he shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor.

他們卻不知道耶和華的意念，也不明白他的籌劃。他聚集他們，好像把禾捆聚到禾場一樣。

¹³Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the LORD, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.

錫安的民（原文作女子）哪，起來踹穀罷！我必使你的角成為鐵，使你的蹄成為銅。你必打碎多國的民，將他們的財獻與耶和華，將他們的貨獻與普天下的主。

^{5:1}Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.

成群的民（原文是女子）哪，現在你要聚集成隊；因為仇敵圍攻我們，要用杖擊打以色列審判者的臉。

²But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

伯利恆、以法他啊，你在猶大諸城中為小，將來必有一位從你那裡出來，在以色列中為我作掌權的；他的根源從亙古，從太初就有。

Tuesday: Matthew 2:1-12

¹Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

當希律王的時候，耶穌生在猶太的伯利恆。有幾個博士從東方來到耶路撒冷，說：

²Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

那生下來作猶太人之王的在那裡？我們在東方看見他的星，特來拜他。

³When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

希律王聽見了，就心裡不安；耶路撒冷合城的人也都不安。

⁴And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

他就召齊了祭司長和民間的文士，問他們說：基督當生在何處？

⁵And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet (*Micah 5:2, 2 Samuel 5:2*),

他們回答說：在猶太的伯利恆。因為有先知記著，說：

Matthew 2:6	Micah 5:2	2 Samuel 5:2
<p>⁶And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.</p> <p>猶大地的伯利恆阿，你在猶大諸城中並不是最小的；因為將來有一位君王要從你那裡出來，牧養我以色列民。</p>	<p>But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.</p> <p>伯利恆、以法他啊，你在猶大諸城中為小，將來必有一位從你那裡出來，在以色列中為我作掌權的；他的根源從亙古，從太初就有。</p>	<p>Also in time past, when Saul was king over us, thou wast he that leddest out and broughtest in Israel: and the LORD said to thee, Thou shalt feed my people Israel, and thou shalt be a captain over Israel.</p> <p>從前掃羅作我們王的時，率領以色列人出入的是你；耶和華也曾應許你說：你必牧養我的民以色列，作以色列的君。</p>

Note: Ephrathah, or Ephrath, is the ancient name for the town of Bethlehem, in Judah, in the southern part of the land of Israel. When the prophet Micah prophesizes in Micah 5:2 that the town of Bethlehem would be the birthplace of the Messiah, he refers to the town as "Bethlehem Ephrathah," to distinguish it from another town named Bethlehem in the northern part of Israel.

⁷Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

當下，希律暗暗的召了博士來，細問那星是甚麼時候出現的，

⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

就差他們往伯利恆去，說：你們去仔細尋訪那小孩子，尋到了，就來報信，我也好去拜他。

⁹When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

他們聽見王的話就去了。在東方所看見的那星忽然在他們前頭行，直行到小孩子的地方，就在上頭停住了。

¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

他們看見那星，就大大的歡喜；

¹¹And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

進了房子，看見小孩子和他母親馬利亞，就俯伏拜那小孩子，揭開寶盒，拿黃金、乳香、沒藥為禮物獻給他。

¹²And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

博士因為在夢中被主指示不要回去見希律，就從別的路回本地去了。

Wednesday: Matthew 2:13-23

¹³And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth 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.

他們去後，有主的使者向約瑟夢中顯現，說：起來！帶著小孩子同他母親逃往埃及，住在那裡，等我吩咐你；因為希律必尋找小孩子，要除滅他。

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

約瑟就起來，夜間帶著小孩子和他母親往埃及去，

Matthew 2:15	Hosea 11:1
<p>¹⁵And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet (<i>Hosea 11:1</i>), saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.</p> <p>住在那裡，直到希律死了。這是要應驗主藉先知所說的話，說：我從埃及召出我的兒子來。</p>	<p>When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.</p> <p>以色列年幼的時候，我愛他，就從埃及召出我的兒子來。</p>

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men. Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet (*Jeremiah 31:15*), saying,

希律見自己被博士愚弄，就大大發怒，差人將伯利恆城裡並四境所有的男孩，照著他向博士仔細查問的時候，凡兩歲以裡的，都殺盡了。¹⁷這就應了先知耶利米的話，說：

Matthew 2:18	Jeremiah 31:15
<p>¹⁸In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.</p> <p>在拉瑪聽見號咷大哭的聲音，是拉結哭他兒女，不肯受安慰，因為他們都不在了。</p>	<p>Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.</p> <p>耶和華如此說：在拉瑪聽見號咷痛哭的聲音，是拉結哭他兒女，不肯受安慰，因為他們都不在了。</p>

¹⁹But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,希律死了以後，有主的使者在埃及向約瑟夢中顯現，說：

²⁰Saying, 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.

起來！帶著小孩子和他母親往以色列地去，因為要害小孩子性命的人已經死了。

²¹And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.

約瑟就起來，把小孩子和他母親帶到以色列地去；

²²But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

只因聽見亞基老接著他父親希律作了猶太王，就怕往那裡去，又在夢中被主指示，便往加利利境內去了，

²³And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

到了一座城，名叫拿撒勒，就住在那裡。這是要應驗先知所說，他將稱為拿撒勒人的話了。

THE ROOT MEANING OF THE HEBREW NAME "NAZARETH" MEANS "BRANCH"

Isaiah 11:1	Jeremiah 23:5-6	Jeremiah 33:15-16	Zechariah 3:8	Zechariah 6:12
<p>And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:</p> <p>從耶西的本（原文是墩）必發一條；從他根生的枝子必結果實。</p>	<p>Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.</p> <p>耶和華說：日子將到，我要給大衛興起一個公義的苗裔；他必掌王權，行事有智慧，在地上施行公平和公義。</p> <p>In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.</p> <p>在他的日子，猶大必得救，以色列也安然居住。他的名必稱為耶和華——我們的義。</p>	<p>In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.</p> <p>當那日子，那時候，我必使大衛公義的苗裔長起來；他必在地上施行公平和公義。</p> <p>In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this is the name wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness.</p> <p>在那日子猶大必得救，耶路撒冷必安然居住，他的名必稱為耶和華——我們的義。</p>	<p>Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH.</p> <p>大祭司約書亞啊，你和坐在你面前的同伴們都是作預兆的。我必使我僕人發大衛的苗裔發出。</p>	<p>And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:</p> <p>對他說，萬軍之耶和華如此說：看哪，那苗裔的，他要在本處長起來，並要建造耶和華的殿。</p>

Thursday: Hosea 11:1-12

¹When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.

以色列年幼的時候，我愛他，就從埃及召出我的兒子來。

²As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images.

先知越發招呼他們，他們越發走開，向諸巴力獻祭，給雕刻的偶像燒香。

³I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.

我原教導以法蓮行走，用膀臂抱著他們，他們卻不知道是我醫治他們。

⁴I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them.

我用慈繩（慈：原文是人的）愛索牽引他們；我待他們如人放鬆牛的兩腮夾板，把糧食放在他們面前。

⁵He shall not return into the land of Egypt, and the Assyrian shall be his king, because they refused to return.

他們必不歸回埃及地，亞述人卻要作他們的王，因他們不肯歸向我。

⁶And the sword shall abide on his cities, and shall consume his branches, and devour them, because of their own counsels.

刀劍必臨到他們的城邑，毀壞門門，把人吞滅，都因他們隨從自己的計謀。

⁷And my people are bent to backsliding from me: though they called them to the most High, none at all would exalt him.

我的民偏要背道離開我；眾先知雖然招呼他們歸向至上的主，卻無人尊崇主。

⁸How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together.

以法蓮哪，我怎能捨棄你？以色列啊，我怎能棄絕你？我怎能使你如押瑪？怎能使你如洗扁？我回心轉意，我的憐愛大大發動。

⁹I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.

我必不發猛烈的怒氣，也不再毀滅以法蓮。因我是神，並非世人，是你們中間的聖者；我必不在怒中臨到你們。

¹⁰They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west.

耶和華必如獅子吼叫，子民必跟隨他。他一吼叫，他們就從西方急速而來。

¹¹They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will place them in their houses, saith the LORD.

他們必如雀鳥從埃及急速而來，又如鴿子從亞述地來到。我必使他們住自己的房屋。這是耶和華說的。

¹²Ephraim compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit: but Judah yet ruleth with God, and is faithful with the saints.

以法蓮用謊話，以色列家用詭計圍繞我；猶大卻靠神掌權，向聖者有忠心（或譯：猶大向神，向誠實的聖者猶疑不定）。

Friday: Jeremiah 31

¹At the same time, saith the LORD, will I be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

耶和華說：那時，我必作以色列各家的神；他們必作我的子民。

²Thus saith the LORD, The people which were left of the sword found grace in the wilderness; even Israel, when I went to cause him to rest.

耶和華如此說：脫離刀劍的就是以色列人。我使他享安息的時候，他曾在曠野蒙恩。

³The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

古時（或譯：從遠方）耶和華向以色列（原文是我）顯現，說：我以永遠的愛愛你，因此我以慈愛吸引你。

⁴Again I will build thee, and thou shalt be built, O virgin of Israel: thou shalt again be adorned with thy tabrets, and shalt go forth in the dances of them that make merry.

以色列的民（原文是處女）哪，我要再建立你，你就被建立；你必再以擊鼓為美，與歡樂的人一同跳舞而出；

⁵Thou shalt yet plant vines upon the mountains of Samaria: the planters shall plant, and shall eat them as common things.

又必在撒瑪利亞的山上栽種葡萄園，栽種的人要享用所結的果子。

⁶For there shall be a day, that the watchmen upon the mount Ephraim shall cry, Arise ye, and let us go up to Zion unto the LORD our God.

日子必到，以法蓮山上守望的人必呼叫說：起來罷！我們可上錫安，到耶和華——我們的神那裡去。

⁷For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.

耶和華如此說：你們當為雅各歡樂歌唱，因萬國中為首的歡呼。當傳揚頌讚說：耶和華啊，求你拯救你的百姓以色列所剩下的人。

⁸Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither *(in that direction)*.

我必將他們從北方領來，從地極招聚；同著他們來的有瞎子、瘸子、孕婦、產婦；他們必成為大幫回到這裡來。

⁹They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

他們要哭泣而來。我要照他們懇求的引導他們，使他們在河水旁走正直的路，在其上不致絆跌；因為我是以色列的父，以法蓮是我的長子。

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.

列國啊，要聽耶和華的話，傳揚在遠處的海島說：趕散以色列的必招聚他，又看守他，好像牧人看守羊群。

¹¹For the LORD hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he.
因耶和華救贖了雅各，救贖他脫離比他更強之人的手。

¹²Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all.

他們要來到錫安的高處歌唱，又流歸耶和華施恩之地，就是有五穀、新酒，和油，並羊羔、牛犢之地。他們的心必像澆灌的園子；他們也不再有一點愁煩。

¹³Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.

那時，處女必歡樂跳舞；年少的、年老的，也必一同歡樂；因為我要使他們的悲哀變為歡喜，並要安慰他們，使他們的愁煩轉為快樂。

¹⁴And I will *satiate* the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the LORD.

我必以肥油使祭司的心滿足；我的百姓也要因我的恩惠知足。這是耶和華說的。

¹⁵Thus saith the LORD; A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children refused to be comforted for her children, because they were not.

耶和華如此說：在拉瑪聽見號咷痛哭的聲音，是拉結哭他兒女，不肯受安慰，因為他們都不在了。

¹⁶Thus saith the LORD; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the LORD; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.

耶和華如此說：你禁止聲音不要哀哭，禁止眼目不要流淚，因你所做之工必有賞賜；他們必從敵國歸回。這是耶和華說的。

¹⁷And there is *hope* in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border.

耶和華說：你末後必有指望；你的兒女必回到自己的境界。

¹⁸I have surely heard Ephraim bemoaning himself thus; Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn thou me, and I shall be turned; for thou art the LORD my God.

我聽見以法蓮為自己悲歎說：你責罰我，我便受責罰，像不慣負軛的牛犢一樣。求你使我回轉，我便回轉，因為你是耶和華—我的神。

¹⁹Surely after that I was turned, I repented; and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even confounded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth.

我回轉以後就真正懊悔；受教以後就拍腿歎息；我因擔當幼年的凌辱就抱愧蒙羞。

²⁰Is Ephraim my dear son? is he a pleasant child? for since I spake against him, I do earnestly remember him still: therefore my bowels are troubled for him; I will surely have mercy upon him, saith the LORD.

耶和華說：以法蓮是我的愛子麼？是可喜悅的孩子麼？我每逢責備他，仍深顧念他；所以我的心腸戀慕他；我必要憐憫他。

²¹Set thee up waymarks, make thee high heaps: set thine heart toward the highway, even the way which thou wentest: turn again, O virgin of Israel, turn again to these thy cities.

以色列民（原文是處女）哪，你當為自己設立指路碑，豎起引路柱。你要留心向大路，就是你所去的原路；你當回轉，回轉到你這些城邑。

²²How long wilt thou go about, O thou backsliding daughter? for the LORD hath created a new thing in the earth, A woman shall compass a man.

背道的民（原文是女子）哪，你反來覆去要到幾時呢？耶和華在地上造了一件新事，就是女子護衛男子。

²² *How long will you wander, my wayward daughter? For the LORD will cause something new to happen— Israel will embrace her God.*
(Hebrew: a woman will court a suitor)

²³Thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; As yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judah and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity; The LORD bless thee, O habitation of justice, and mountain of holiness.

萬軍之耶和華—以色列的神如此說：我使被擄之人歸回的時候，他們在猶大地和其中的城邑必再這樣說：公義的居所啊，聖山哪，願耶和華賜福給你。

²⁴And there shall dwell in Judah itself, and in all the cities thereof together, husbandmen, and they that go forth with flocks.

猶大和屬猶大城邑的人，農夫和放羊的人，要一同住在其中。

²⁵For I have **satiated** the weary soul, and I have **replenished** every sorrowful soul.

疲乏的人，我使他飽飫；愁煩的人，我使他知足。

²⁶Upon this I awaked, and beheld; and my sleep was sweet unto me.

先知說：我醒了，覺著睡得香甜！

²⁷Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of man, and with the seed of beast.

耶和華說：日子將到，我要把人的種和牲畜的種播種在以色列家和猶大家。

²⁸And it shall come to pass, that like as I have watched over them, to pluck up, and to break down, and to throw down, and to destroy, and to afflict; so will I watch over them, to build, and to plant, saith the LORD.

我先前怎樣留意將他們拔出、拆毀、毀壞、傾覆、苦害，也必照樣留意將他們建立、栽植。這是耶和華說的。

²⁹In those days they shall say no more, The fathers have eaten a sour grape, and the children's teeth are set on edge.

當那些日子，人不再說：父親吃了酸葡萄，兒子的牙酸倒了。

³⁰But every one shall die for his own iniquity: every man that eateth the sour grape, his teeth shall be set on edge.

但各人必因自己的罪死亡；凡吃酸葡萄的，自己的牙必酸倒。

³¹Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

耶和華說：日子將到，我要與以色列家和猶大家另立新約，

³²Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

不像我拉著他們祖宗的手，領他們出埃及地的時候，與他們所立的約。我雖作他們的丈夫，他們卻背了我的約。這是耶和華說的。

³³But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.
耶和華說：那些日子以後，我與以色列家所立的約乃是這樣：我要將我的律法放在他們裡面，寫在他們心上。我要作他們的神，他們要作我的子民。

³⁴And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

他們各人不再教導自己的鄰舍和自己的弟兄說：你該認識耶和華，因為他們從最小的到至大的都必認識我。我要赦免他們的罪孽，不再記念他們的罪惡。這是耶和華說的。

³⁵Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name:

那使太陽白日發光，使星月有定例，黑夜發亮，又攪動大海，使海中波浪匉匉的，萬軍之耶和華是他的名。他如此說：

³⁶If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

這些定例若能在我面前廢掉，以色列的後裔也就在我面前斷絕，永遠不再成國。這是耶和華說的。

³⁷Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.

耶和華如此說：若能量度上天，尋察下地的根基，我就因以色列後裔一切所行的棄絕他們。這是耶和華說的。

³⁸Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the city shall be built to the LORD from the tower of Hananeel unto the gate of the corner.

耶和華說：日子將到，這城必為耶和華建造，從哈楠業樓直到角門。

³⁹And the measuring line shall yet go forth over against it upon the hill Gareb, and shall compass about to Goath.

準繩要往外量出，直到迦立山，又轉到歌亞。

⁴⁰And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook of Kidron, unto the corner of the horse gate toward the east, shall be holy unto the LORD; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever.

拋屍的全谷和倒灰之處，並一切田地，直到汲淪溪，又直到東方馬門的拐角，都要歸耶和華為聖，不再拔出，不再傾覆，直到永遠。

Saturday: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:
從耶西的本（原文是墩）必發一條；從他根生的枝子必結果實。

THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE KING (vss. 2-5)

²And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,

- the spirit of wisdom and understanding 智慧和聰明的靈
- the spirit of counsel and might 謀略和能力的靈
- the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD 知識和敬畏耶和華的靈

耶和華的靈必住在他身上，就是使他有智慧和聰明的靈，謀略和能力的靈，知識和敬畏耶和華的靈。

³And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

他必以敬畏耶和華為樂；行審判不憑眼見，斷是非也不憑耳聞；

⁴But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

卻要以公義審判貧窮人，以正直判斷世上的謙卑人，以口中的杖擊打世界，以嘴裡的氣殺戮惡人。

⁵And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins.

公義必當他的腰帶；信實必當他脅下的帶子。

THE NATURE OF HIS KINGDOM (vss. 6-10)

⁶The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.

豺狼必與綿羊羔同居，豹子與山羊羔同臥；少壯獅子與牛犢並肥畜同群；小孩子要牽引他們。

⁷And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

牛必與熊同食；牛犢必與小熊同臥；獅子必吃草，與牛一樣。

⁸And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

吃奶的孩子必玩耍在虺蛇的洞口；斷奶的嬰兒必按手在毒蛇的穴上。

⁹They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

在我聖山的遍處，這一切都不傷人，不害物；因為認識耶和華的知識要充滿遍地，好像水充滿洋海一般。

¹⁰And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

到那日，耶西的根立作萬民的大旗；外邦人必尋求他，他安息之所大有榮耀。

Sunday: Jeremiah 23:1-8

¹Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD.

耶和華說：那些殘害、趕散我草場之羊的牧人有禍了！

²Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD.

耶和華——以色列的神斥責那些牧養他百姓的牧人，如此說：你們趕散我的羊群，並沒有看顧他們；我必討你們這行惡的罪。這是耶和華說的。

³And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase.

我要將我羊群中所餘剩的，從我趕他們到的各國內招聚出來，領他們歸回本圈；他們也必生養眾多。

⁴And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD.

我必設立照管他們的牧人，牧養他們。他們不再懼怕，不再驚惶，也不缺少一個；這是耶和華說的。

⁵Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth.

耶和華說：日子將到，我要給大衛興起一個公義的苗裔；他必掌王權，行事有智慧，在地上施行公平和公義。

⁶In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is his name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

在他的日子，猶大必得救，以色列也安然居住。他的名必稱為耶和華——我們的義。

⁷Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that they shall no more say, The LORD liveth, which brought up the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt;

耶和華說：日子將到，人必不再指著那領以色列人從埃及地上來永生的耶和華起誓，

⁸But, The LORD liveth, which brought up and which led the seed of the house of Israel out of the north country, and from all countries whither I had driven them; and they shall dwell in their own land.

卻要指著那領以色列家的後裔從北方和趕他們到的各國中上來、永生的耶和華起誓。他們必住在本地。