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¹¹ And when they were come into the house (...remember: this is that exotic group that had come from the East to Jerusalem. Apparently, they hadn't seen the star of late... and turned their caravan towards Jerusalem... thinking that's the capitol city of: this One born King of the Jews.

Matthew Henry's comments from the early 1700's... on this event are worth sharing. Their question is: Where is He that is born King of the Jews? They do not ask whether there were such a One born. And to this question, they doubted not but to have a ready answer; and to find all Jerusalem worshipping at the feet of this new King. But they come from door to door with this question, and no man can give them any information. And Matthew Henry makes a side comment: There is more gross ignorance in the world, and in the church too, than we are aware of.

Henry continues... However they pursue the inquiry: Where is He that is born King of the Jews? Are they asked: Why do they make this inquiry? It is because they have seen His star in the East. Are they asked: What business have you with Him that is King of the Jews? They have their ready answer: We are come to worship Him. They conclude: in the process of time, He will be their King too; therefore, they want to gain the favor of Him, and those about Him—weren't they surprised!

But now they know where to look; and now they have come to Bethlehem. And isn't it interesting that not one person from the court, the church or the city... out of a sense of conscience, civility or curiosity... even followed them)

(Matthew writes...)

And when they were come into the house,

Na wakaingia nyumbani (...kumbuka: hii ni lile kundi geni ambao walitoka Mashariki kuelekea Yerusalemu. Inavyoonekana, walikuwa hawajaona nyota hapo awali... na wakageuza msafara wao kwenda Yerusalemu... wafikiri hiyo ni mji mkuu wa: Huyu mtoto mmoja, Mfalme wa Wayahudi.

Mathayo Henry kutoka miaka ya 1700 ana maoni... ambayo ina thamani ya kushirikiana. Swali lao ni: Je, yupo wapi aliyezaliwa Mfalme wa Wayahudi? Hawaulizi kama kweli kuna yule Moja aliyezaliwa. Na kwa swali hili, wao hawakuwa na mashaka ila kuwa na jibu tayari; na kutarajia Yerusalemu yote ikiabudu chini ya miguu ya huyu Mfalme mpya. Lakini wao waliulizia kuto mlango hadi lingine na swali hili, na hakuna mtu aliyeweza kuwapa taarifa yoyote. Na Mathayo Henry anatoa maoni ya upande: Kuna ujinga zaidi duniani, na kanisani pia, kuliko tunavyofahamu.

Henry anaendelea... Hata hivyo wakaendelea na uchunguzi: Je, wapi aliyezaliwa mfalme wa Wayahudi? Je, wao waliulizwa: Kwa nini wanafanya uchunguzi huu? Ni kwa sababu wameona nyota yake ilipotokea mashariki. Je, wao waliulizwa: Ni biashara gani mnayo ninyi na huyu Mfalme wa Wayahudi? Wana jibu lao tayari: Sisi tumekuja kumwabudu. Hatimaye: katika mchakato wa muda, Yeye atakuwa mfalme wao pia; Kwa hiyo, wanataka kupata kibali chake, na wale karibu nae—walishangaa!

Lakini sasa wanajua ni wapi pa kuangalia; na wamefika Bethlehemu. Na ni jambo la kushangaza kwamba hakuna mtu mmoja toka mahakamani, kanisa au jiji... kwa hisia ya dhamiri, hisani rasmi au udadisi... hakuwafuata)

(Mathayo anaandika...)

Na wakaingia nyumbani,

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they saw the young Child (...9 times in a handful of verse, this young Child is in focus. Isn't it a little excessive? I mean Matthew, how many time do you need to mention the young Child? Now obviously, some lesson is being driven home here! Let's see if we can figure it out.)

And when they were come into the house,

they saw the young Child. (Got it!)

(And Matthew adds, almost like an afterthought...)

with Mary (...not... with Mary mother full of it, and hocus pocus, claptrap... stuff!

(Just...)

with Mary (...oh yeah!) his mother (...and I bet she is a very nice lady)

and (...these people from the East)

fell down, and worshipped... Him (...not: them, not her)

(Matthew continues...)

and when they had opened their treasures (...when they had unpacked their treasure chests),

they presented unto Him (...not them)

gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

(**Gold**, the gift of royalty; **frankincense**, the gift of incense to the Divinity; **myrrh**, the gift of sorrow and sadness... anticipating His death.

And all these stories are highly compressed. How long they were there... we do not know. What we do know is... as Professor Edersheim said, This is not how we tell fabulous fables.)

wakamwona Mtoto (...mara 9 katika mistari chache, Mtoto huyu kijana amekua kiini cha makini wa mwelekeo. Je, sio zaidi kidogo? Namaanisha Mathayo, mara ngapi unahitaji kutaja Mtoto? Sasa ni wazi, kuna somo ambalo linasisitizwa au kutiliwa maanani hapa! Hebu tuone kama tunaweza kuipata.)

Na wakaingia nyumbani,

wakamwona Mtoto. (Je unaelewa!)
(Na Mathayo anaongeza, kama wazo la baadaye...)

pamoja na Mariamu (...si... pamoja na Maria mama kamili , ujao wa neema na maneno mengine!

(Tu ...)

pamoja na Mariamu (...oh yeah!) mamaye (...na naamini likuwa mwanamke mzuri sana)

na (...watu hawa kutoka Mashariki)

wakaanguka wakamsujudia... yeye (...si: wao, na wala sio mama yake)

(Mathayo anaendelea...)

nao walipokwisha kufungua hazina zao (...walipokwisha kufungua hazina zao),

wakaMTOLEA (...si wakawatolea)

tunu; dhahabu na uvumba na manemane.

(**dhahabu**, zawadi ya kifalme; **uvumba**, zawadi ya uvumba kwa Uungu; **manemane**, zawadi ya huzuni na huzuni... kulitarajia kifo chake.

Na hadithi hizi zote zimefupishwa. Muda gani walikuwa huko... hatujui. Tunalojua ni... kama Profesa Edersheim alisema, Hii sio jinsi sisi husema hadithi ya ajabu.)

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Verse ¹² And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod,

they departed (...they withdrew) into their own country another way.

¹³ And when they were departed (...when they withdrew),

behold (pay attention),

the angel of the Lord 'appeareth' to Joseph in a dream (...literally, the angel of the Lord shined to Joseph in a dream.

Here, we see God is not a boastful braggart. He's confident about who He is. And apparently Joseph is unaware of the danger the Child is in. So this heavenly visitor appears...)

to Joseph in a dream, saying,

Arise, and take the young Child (...oh!)

and His mother (...and it's sort of funny... It's like... what's her name?)

and flee into Egypt,

and be thou there until I bring thee word (...stay there and don't move until I tell you to)

for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him (...and probably hearing that Joseph was quick to obey. He knew the meaning of: urgency!)

¹⁴ When he arose (...when Joseph arose),

he took the young Child (...he probably grabbed the Child... and headed out the door!)

Mstari ¹² Nao wakiisha kuonywa na Mungu katika ndoto wasimrudie Herode;

wakaenda zao (...wakaondoka) kwao kwa njia nyingine.

Na hao walipokwisha kwenda zao (...wakati waliondoka),

tazama (makini),

malaika wa Bwana 'alimtokea' Yusufu katika ndoto (...halisi, malaika wa Bwana aliangaza Yusufu katika ndoto.

Hapa, tunaona Mungu si wa kuringa. Anaujasiri kuhusu Yeye ni nani. Na inaonekana Yusufu gani hawajui hatari huyu Mtoto yu kati. Hivyo mgeni toka mbinguni inabidi amshukie...)

Yusufu katika ndoto, akasema,

Ondoka, umchukue Mtoto (... oh!)

na mama yake (...na ni ya kutafakari... Ni kama...je, jina lake nani?)

ukimbilie Misri,

ukae huko hata nikuambie (...kukaa huko mpaka nitakapo kuambia)

kwa maana Herode anataka kumtafuta Mtoto amwangamize (...na pengine kusikia hayo Yusufu alikuwa haraka wa kutii. Alijua maana ya: dharura!)

¹⁴ **Hivyo, Yusufu akaondoka** (...alipoamka Yusufu),

akamchukua Mtoto (...pengine alimnyakua Mtoto... na kukurupuka nje mlango!)

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Oh! and **His mother** (...uh? What's her name?!)

by night.

(It seems as if they moved that night. Now some people in the church can't move that fast; they need a committee meeting. But Joseph knows: when God is talking... MOVE! He wasn't going to argue with the Lord saying, If you want this Child to be the Savior of the world... You better provide us with at least a camel... or two! NO!

Joseph got up... and obeyed... and took the young Child... and they DEP... oh!

And His mother...also!)

and they departed... into Egypt:

¹⁵ And was there until the death of Herod:

that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet (...the prophet Hosea) saying,

Out of Egypt have I called My son.

¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men,

was exceeding wroth (...he was pissed off! Now history records he was a sociopath... barbarous, brutal; he had already murdered 2 of his sons; he was a freak; a total freak)

and he sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem (...roman tradition says it was 14,000. It wasn't; but if there were only 14 children, they became the first martyrs in the army of this newborn King)

and he slew all the children that were in Bethlehem.

Ah! na mama yake (...uh? Je, wapi jina lake?!)

wakati wa usiku.

(Inaonekana kana kwamba waliongozwa usiku huo. Sasa baadhi ya watu katika kanisa hawezi hoja za dhoruba au haraka; wanahitaji mkutano wa kamati. Lakini Lakini Yusufu anajua: wakati Mungu anazungumza... ondoka! Yeye hakuwa wa kubishana na Bwana! akisema, Kama unataka Mtoto huyu kuwa Mwokozi wa ulimwengu... bora utupatie angalau ngamia... au mbili! La!

Yusufu aliamka... na kutii... akamchukua mtoto... na wao wakatoweka... oh!

na mama yake... pia!)

akaenda zake Misri:

¹⁵ Akakaa huko hata alipokufa Herode:

ili litimie neno lililonenwa na Bwana kwa ujumbe wa nabii (...Hosea nabii) akisema,

Kutoka Misri nalimwita mwanangu.

¹⁶ Ndipo Herode, alipoona ya kuwa amedhihakiwa na wale mamajusi,

alighadhabika sana (...alikuwa na hasira kubwa mno! Sasa kihistoria alikuwa ni mtu mwenye machafuko wa akili... mkosa nidhamu, kikatili; alikuwa tayari amewauwa wanawe 2; alikuwa kituko; kituko jumla)

akatuma watu akawaua watoto wote wanaume waliokuwako huko Bethlehemu (...mila Kirumi anasema wailikuwa 14,000 La hasha;. hata kama ilikuwa watoto 14 tu, wakawa mashahidi wa kwanza katika jeshi la huyu Mfalme mchanga)

akawaua watoto wote wanaume waliokuwako huko Bethlehemu,

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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.

(And by the way, Herod even murdered a third son of his during this time.

It makes you wonder: Was this 70 year old politician afraid of those two year-olds? Augustus Caesar is reported to have said: It is better to be Herod's pig... than Herod's son. But enough of that politician; he's dead)

Verse ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying,

¹⁸ In Rama there was a voice heard, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

(This is where Israel's wife Rachel died. This is where king David was born. Bethlehem was a blessed town.)

Verse ¹⁹ But when Herod was dead (...this was around 4 BC),

behold (...pay attention),

an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph (...who was) in Egypt,

²⁰ Saying, Arise, and take the young Child (oh!) and His mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young Child's life.

And he arose, and took the young Child... and...? (Did you get it? You're right!)

na viungani mwake mwote,

tangu wenye miaka miwili na waliopungua,

kwa muda ule aliouhakikisha kwa wale mamajusi.

(Herode hata alimuua mwanawe wa tatu wakati huu.

Ni jambo la kustaajabisha: Je? huyu mwanasiasa wa umri miaka 70 aliwahofu wale watoto wa mwaka miwili? Augustus Caesar tunataarifishwa kuwa alisema: Ni bora kuwa nguruwe ya Herode... kuliko mwana wa Herode. Lakini inatosha mwanasiasa huyo, amefariki)

Mstari ¹⁷ Ndipo lilipotimia neno lililonenwa na nabii Yeremia, akisema,

¹⁸ Sauti ilisikiwa Rama, Kilio, na maombolezo mengi, Raheli akiwalilia watoto wake, Asikubali kufarijiwa, kwa kuwa hawako.

(Hapa ndipo mke wa Israeli Raheli alikufa. Hapa ndipo mfalme Daudi alipozaliwa. Bethlehemu ulikuwa mji wa heri.)

Mstari ¹⁹ Hata alipofariki Herode (...hii ilikuwa ni karibu 4 KK),

tazama (...makini),

malaika wa Bwana alimtokea Yusufu katika ndoto (...alipo kuwepo) huko Misri,

²⁰ Akasema, Ondoka, umchukua Mtoto (oh!) na mamaye, ushike njia kwenda nchi ya Israeli; kwa maana wamekufa walioitafuta roho ya Mtoto.

²¹ Akaondoka, akamchukua Mtoto... na...? (Je, unaipata? kamili!)

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His mother (...what's her name?! And Matthew, inspired by the Holy Spirit... didn't even write her name, except once... respectfully)

and entered into the land of Israel.

But when he heard that Archelaus (...another Edomite) did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod (...in the place of his father, ruthless Herod),

he was afraid to go thither (to go there):

but being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee. (And isn't it interesting how God provides? With Galilee, 100 miles north of Jerusalem; and Bethlehem of Judaea south of Jerusalem... there was Samaria, a buffer-zone... in-between; a region avoided by the Jewish people. And people rarely traveled more than 20 or 25 miles from their home in those days.)

(Matthew writes...)

²³ And he (...Joseph and the family) came

and dwelt in a city (...actually it's a small town) called Nazareth:

that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene. mamaye (...je, jina lake nani?! Na Mathayo, aliongozwa kwa Roho Mtakatifu ... hata mara moja hakuandika jina lake, isipokuwa kwa... heshima)

akafika nchi ya Israeli.

Lakini aliposikia ya kwamba Arkelao (...Mu-edomi mwingine) anamiliki huko Uyahudi mahali pa Herode babaye (...katika mahali sehemu ya baba yake, Herode katili),

aliogopa kwenda huko:

naye akiisha kuonywa katika ndoto, akasafiri pande za Galilaya. (Na, je,ni ya kuvutia jinsi Mungu hufanya miujiza? Galilaya, maili 100 kaskazini ya Yerusalemu; na Bethlehemu mkoani Yudea kusini mwa Yerusalemu... kulikuwa na Samaria, buffer zone... katikakati; kanda bila Wayahudi wengi. Na Watu mara chache walisafiri zaidi ya maili 20 au 25 kutoka nyumbani kwao katika siku hizo.)

(Mathayo anaandika...)

²³ Nave (...Yosufu na familia yake) akaenda

akakaa katika mji (...kwa kweli ni mji mdogo) ulioitwa Nazareti:

ili litimie neno lililonenwa na manabii,

Yeve ataitwa Mnazareti.