THE BIRTH AND CHILDHOOD OF JESUS CHRIST: "Was Met With Varying Responses"

JOHN 1:10-13

John 1:10-13 (ESV)

- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him.
- 11 He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.
- 12 But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God,

John 1:10-13 (ESV)

13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

I. Some Responded Wickedly

- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him.
- 11 He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.

Herod's slaughter of the innocents (2 years old and younger)

Matthew 2:1–18 (ESV)

- 1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,
- 2 saying, "Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him."

- 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;
- 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

Herod's slaughter of the innocents (2 years old and younger)

Matthew 2:1–18 (ESV)

- 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:
- 6 " 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.' "

Herod's slaughter of the innocents (2 years old and younger)

Matthew 2:1–18 (ESV)

- 7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.
- 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship Him."

- **9** After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the Child was.
- 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

11 And going into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him."

Herod's slaughter of the innocents (2 years old and younger)

Matthew 2:1–18 (ESV)

- 14 And he rose and took the Childle and His mother by night and departed to Egypt
- 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called My Son."

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

- **17** Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:
- 18 "A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

II. Some Responded Joyfully

- 12 But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God,
- 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

- 8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
- **9** And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

- 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.
- 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

- 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."
- 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

- 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"
- 15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

- **16** And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.
- 17 And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.

- **18** And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.
- 19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.
- 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

- 21 And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.
- 22 And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

- 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord")
- 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

- 25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.
- 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

- 27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the Law,
- 28 he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

- 29 "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word;
- **30** for my eyes have seen Your salvation
- **31** that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

- a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel."
- And His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him.

- 34 And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed
- **35** (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

3. Anna's response Luke 2:36–38 (ESV)

- 36 And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin,
- 37 and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day.

3. Anna's response Luke 2:36–38 (ESV)

38 And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of Him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.