

# THE NT & DREAMS MT. 1:20-25

We will look at these texts descriptively first:

## 1. God revealed his plans in dreams.

**Matthew 1:20** But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)**, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

**Matthew 2:12** And being warned of God **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)** that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

**Matthew 2:13** And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)**, 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.

**Matthew 2:19** But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)** to Joseph in Egypt,

**Matthew 2:22** But 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 (κατ' ὄναρ)**, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

[**Matthew 27:19** When he was set down on the judgment seat, his wife sent unto him, saying, Have thou nothing to do with that just man: for I have suffered many things this day **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)** because of him.]

These are the **only** references in the NT to this particular word (6x)

## 2. God revealed His plans about the Messiah in dreams

**Matthew 1:20** But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)**, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

**Matthew 2:12** And being warned of God **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)** that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. **Matthew 2:13** And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)**, 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. **Matthew 2:19** But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth **in a dream (κατ' ὄναρ)** to Joseph in Egypt, **Matthew 2:22** But 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 (κατ' ὄναρ)**, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

### It is important to recognize what God revealed & didn't reveal in dreams:

**Matthew 1:1** THE book of the generation **of Jesus Christ**, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

**Matthew 1:16** And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, **of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.**

**Matthew 1:20** But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, **saying**, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her **is of the Holy Ghost.**

**Matthew 1:21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **JESUS**: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**Matthew 1:22** Now all this was done, **that** it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, **Matthew 1:23** Behold, a **virgin** shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name **Emmanuel**, which being interpreted is, **God with us.** **Matthew 1:24** Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: **Matthew 1:25** And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name **JESUS.**

### What does God reveal?

- About the virgin birth
- About God with us → Emmanuel
- About the Christ / Messiah
- About the one who saves His people from their sins → Jesus
- That he should marry Mary
- That he not know her until she delivered her firstborn child
- That they don't return to Jerusalem
- That the family go to Egypt to escape Herod
- That it was time to return home
- That they go into Galilee & not to Bethlehem

How could we **summarize** this? The Christian Faith

### What doesn't God reveal?

Prosperity	Favor	Anointing
Health	Stock	Personal success
Lottery		

### 3. God revealed His plans by more than dreams!

**Matthew 1:20** But while he thought on these things, behold, **the angel of the Lord** appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

**Matthew 2:1** Now when Jesus was born in Beth-lehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, **Matthew 2:2** Saying, 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.

**Matthew 2:12** And **being warned of (χρηματισθέντες) God** in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

**Matthew 2:13** 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.

**Matthew 2:19** But when Herod was dead, behold, **an angel of the Lord** appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

**Matthew 2:22** But 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 (χρηματισθείς) of God** in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

What were the “more than?”

- The angel of the Lord
- Divine warning
- A star

At this point we know / recognize we are dealing with something **special, unique, one-time-only, sui generis** acts!

My situation **doesn't** quite come up to the level of salvation-history!

### 4. God revealed His plans by dreams in **agreement with and in fulfillment of Scripture**

**Matthew 1:22** Now all this was done, **that it might be fulfilled** which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

**Matthew 1:23** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

**Matthew 2:5** And they said unto him, In Beth-lehem of Judaea: **for thus it is written by the prophet, Matthew 2:6** And thou Beth-lehem, 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.

**Matthew 2:13** 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. **Matthew 2:14** When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: **Matthew 2:15** And was there until the death of Herod: **that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.**

**Matthew 2:19** But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, **Matthew 2:22** But 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: **Matthew 2:23** 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.**

### 5. God revealed **only** those plans in a dream and **no others!**

The word is not found again.

### 6. **Maybe** God will re-reveal His plans in dreams in the tribulation

**Acts 2:17** And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men **shall dream dreams (ἐνύπνια ἐνυπνιασθήσονται):**

**Revelation 11:3** And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. **Revelation 11:4** These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

**Revelation 11:5** And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. **Revelation 11:6** These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will. **Revelation 11:7** And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them. **Revelation 11:8** And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.