

Jesus IOI

“Grace Thoughts”



IF THE SON SETS YOU FREE,
YOU ARE FREE INDEED!
JOHN 8:36

A short devotional to help get you excited about Jesus!

This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called My Son.” —Matthew 2:15

The young woman was very intelligent, but her family could not pay for her studies. She decided to enroll in medical school and apply for student loans. She became a very successful student, but when she graduated, she wondered how she would ever pay the large student debt that she had accumulated. Then she received a job offer that included the full pay-off of her student debt! She was beside herself! Has someone ever paid a debt that you couldn't pay?

Matthew proposes that Jesus relived Israel's history, becoming victorious where they had failed. Therefore, Matthew sometimes quotes Old Testament verses about Israel and applies them to Jesus. One such case is found in Baby Jesus' return from Egypt, for which Matthew cites Hosea 11:1: “This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ‘Out of Egypt I called My Son’ ” (Matthew 2:15). Hosea 11 is one of the most passionate chapters in the Old Testament, in which God, using a father / son symbolism, explains how He loved Israel as His son, how He took them in His arms and led them with bonds of love. And yet they turned away from Him. The people of Israel (corporately; see Exodus 4:22) and the king of Israel (individually; see 2 Samuel 7:14) are the two Old Testament precursors of the Father / Son relationship between God and Jesus in the New Testament. Now, Jesus would be the perfect kingly representative of God's people. Matthew's proposal that Jesus relived Israel's history and was triumphant in what they had failed in has brought great peace to my soul. That Jesus lived a perfect life and died a perfect death in my place, paying the debt that I couldn't pay, is the source of the assurance of my salvation. When God sees me, He sees Jesus' perfect righteousness in my place. When I accept Jesus as my Savior, the sinful things on my record are covered by His perfection. Matthew proposed to Israel that their history was hidden in Christ, because Jesus rewrote their history. I invite you to believe the same. Your story is His story!

Talbot, Elizabeth *Jesus Wins!*, p. 255.