

unexpected

four unexpected
christmas stories

Zechariah

Herod

Mary

Simeon



Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea during the time when Herod was king.



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Jesus "Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship Him.' When King Herod heard this he was disturbed and all Jerusalem with him." Matthew 2:2,3



¹⁶ When Herod saw that the wise men had tricked him, he was furious. So he gave an order to kill all the baby boys in Bethlehem and in the surrounding area who were two years old or younger. This was in keeping with the time he learned from the wise men. Matthew 2:16



17 So what God had said through the prophet Jeremiah came true:

18 *"A voice was heard in Ramah of painful crying and deep sadness: Rachel crying for her children. She refused to be comforted, because her children are dead."*

Matthew 2:17,18





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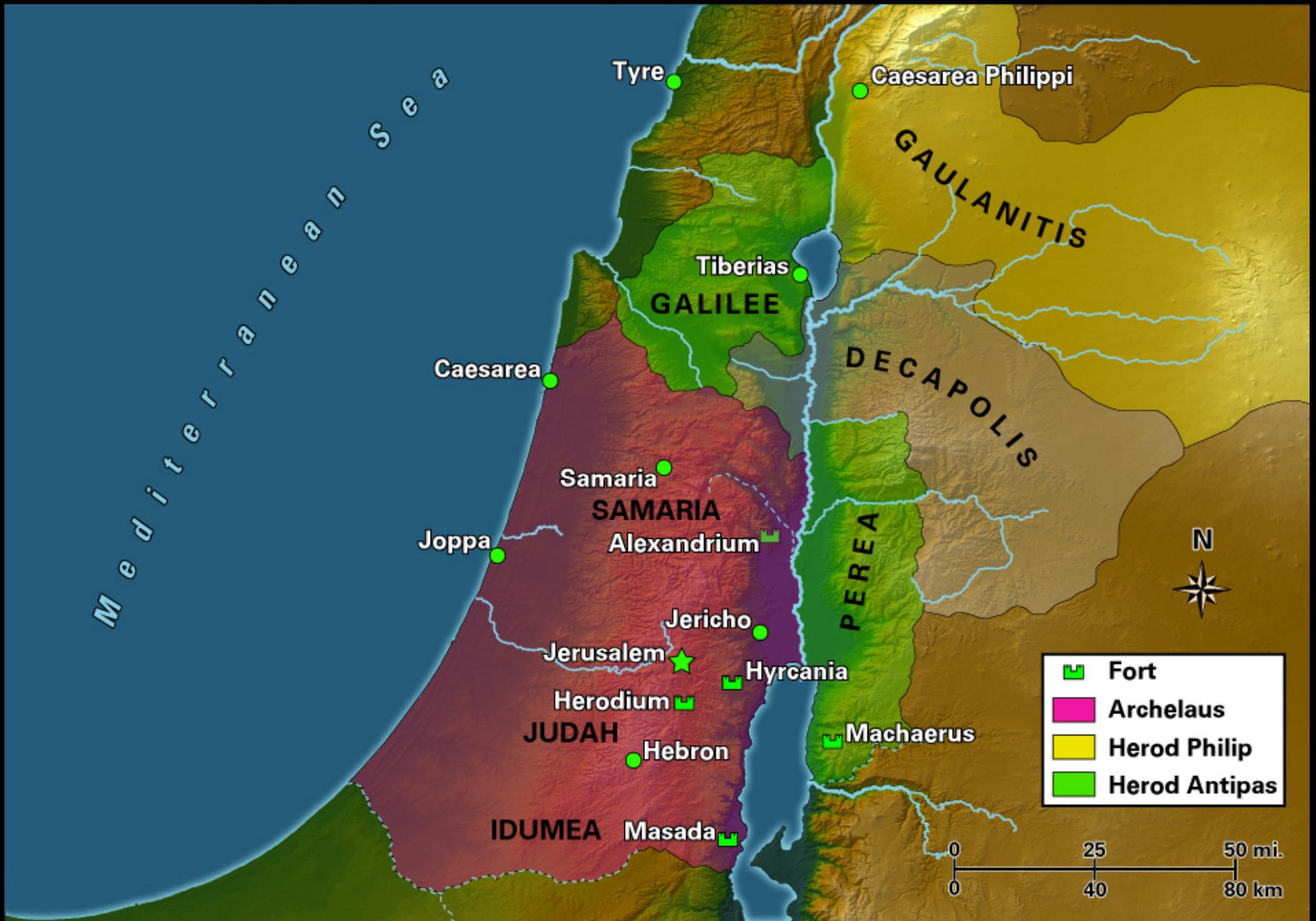
18 *"A voice was heard in Ramah of painful crying and deep sadness: Rachel crying for her children. She refused to be comforted, because her children are dead."*

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¹³ After they left, an angel of the Lord came to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt, because Herod is starting to look for the child so he can kill him. Matthew 2:13





'A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.'" Jeremiah 31:15





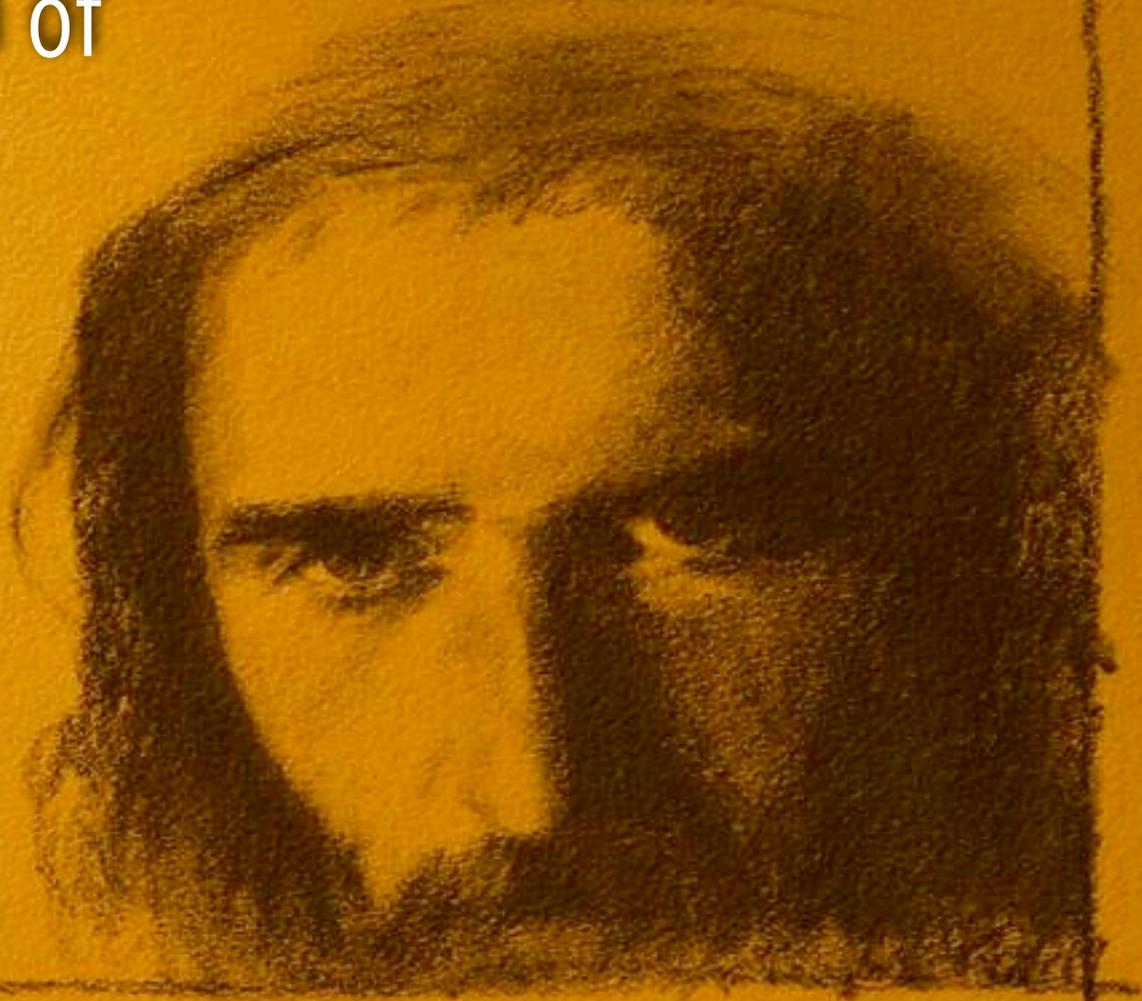
A new Pew Research Center Survey finds that a rising share of U.S. adults who are not already parents say they are unlikely to ever have children, and their reasons range from the high cost of child care, the global instability and domestic politics. Micheal Ellsberg, 44 years old from Berkeley, said, *"As I think of it a child is like rolling dice with a child's life in an increasingly uncertain world."*

“Sure we might find how to limit global warming to 1.5 or 2 degrees Celsius. We might figure out how to cooperate as a globe to prevent future pandemics. We might figure out how to limit the risks of nuclear war and terrorisms. But we might not”.



Jesus- "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:3





After Herod died, Matthew 2:19







Remember

MJW

you will die



¹¹They (Magi) came to the house where the child was and saw him with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. They opened their gifts and gave him treasures of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:11





And a sword will pierce
even your own soul.
Luke 2:35





Merry Christmas