

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

What does the New Year hold for you?



# New Year Traditions

- What are your New Year traditions?



# New Year Traditions



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# New Year Traditions

- What are your New Year traditions?
- How do you celebrate the New Year?



# New Year Traditions



# New Year Traditions





# New Year Traditions



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# New Year Traditions



# New Year Traditions

- What are your New Year traditions?
- How do you celebrate the New Year?
- Do you think the New Year should be a religious celebration?



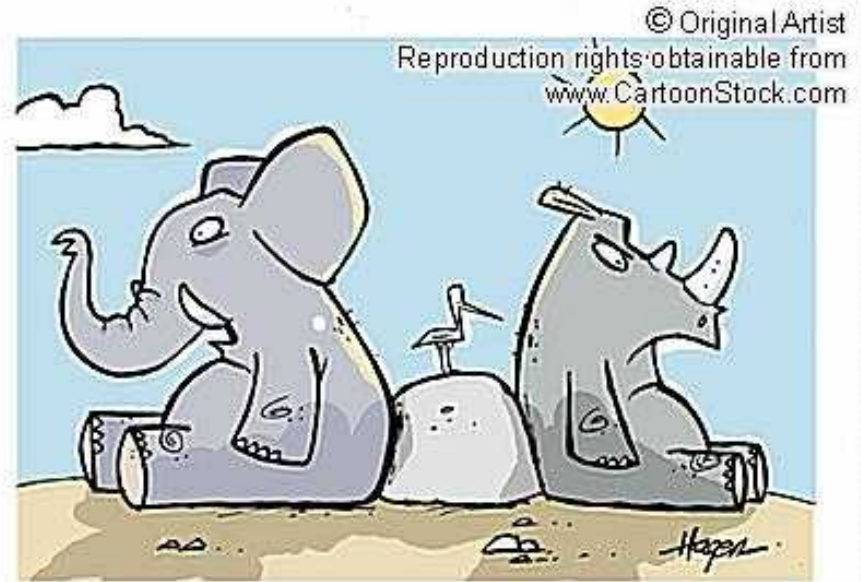
# A Time to Reflect

- What were some of the greatest joys this past year?
- What was a low point this past year?
- What is something you regret doing this past year?
- What is something you would do again in the coming year?



# A Time to Plan

## *New Years Resolutions*



EVERY YEAR IT'S THE SAME THING. I RESOLVE TO LOSE A TON,  
AND YOU SAY YOU'RE GOING TO CONTROL YOUR ANGER.

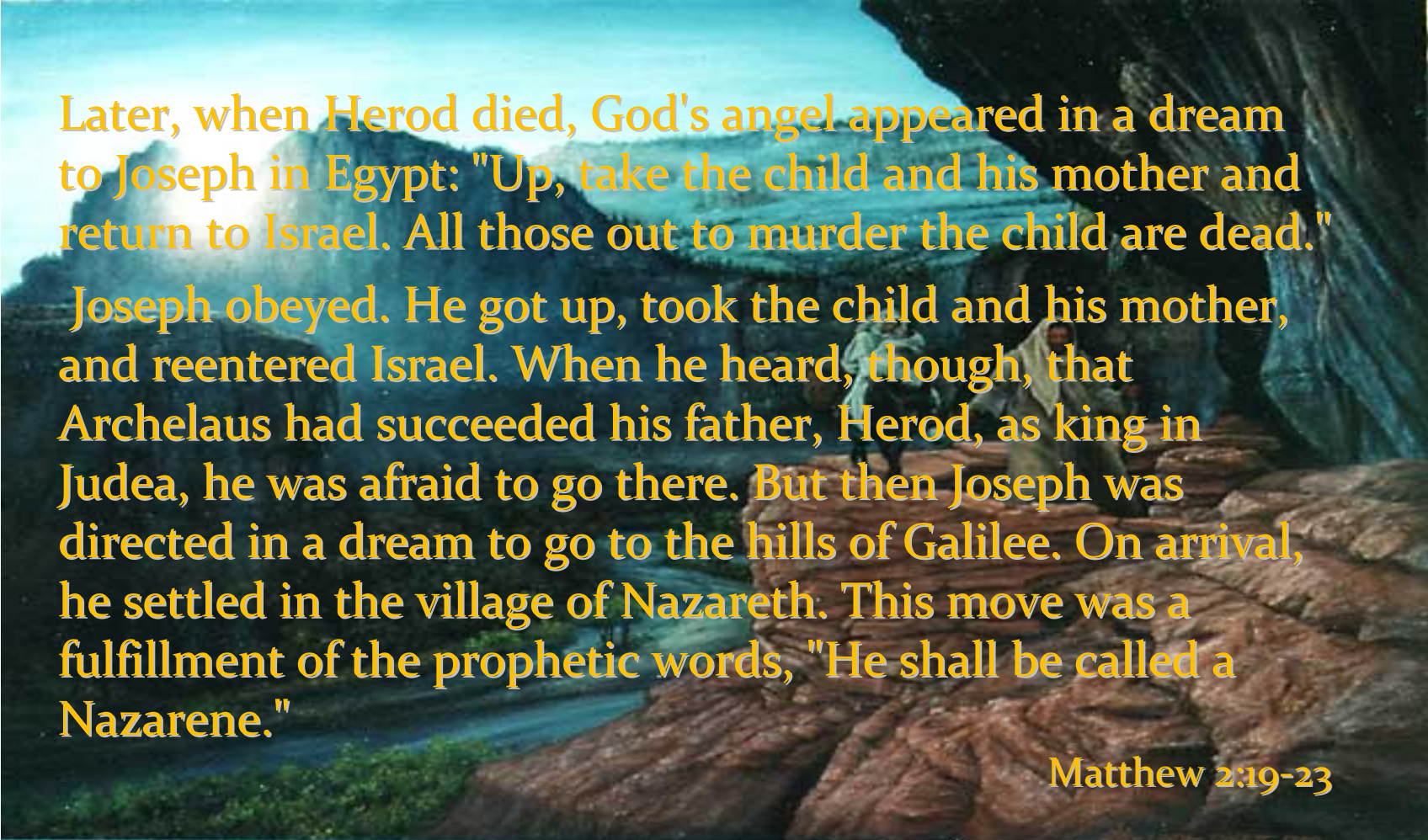
# A Time to Plan

## *New Years Resolutions*

- What resolutions would be good to make for 2009?



# A Time of New Beginning

A scenic landscape featuring a river flowing through a valley, surrounded by mountains and a large rock formation on the right. The scene is overlaid with text in a yellow font.

Later, when Herod died, God's angel appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt: "Up, take the child and his mother and return to Israel. All those out to murder the child are dead."

Joseph obeyed. He got up, took the child and his mother, and reentered Israel. When he heard, though, that Archelaus had succeeded his father, Herod, as king in Judea, he was afraid to go there. But then Joseph was directed in a dream to go to the hills of Galilee. On arrival, he settled in the village of Nazareth. This move was a fulfillment of the prophetic words, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

Matthew 2:19-23

# A Time of New Beginning

- What can be said of Joseph's reaction to this new beginning?
- At this time of the year there are three related events; Winter Solstice, Christmas and New Year, how are they related?



# What does 2009 hold for us?

- A time of anxiety



# What does 2009 hold for us?

- A time of anxiety
- A time of hope



# What does 2009 hold for us?

- A time of anxiety
- A time of hope
- A time of uncertainty



# What does 2009 hold for us?

- A time of anxiety
- A time of hope
- A time of uncertainty
- A time of trust in God



# A New Year Prayer

For the year past in all its glory and sorrow . . .

For the year to come, with all its anxiety and joyful anticipation. . .

For the kingdom to come, with all God's promises . . .

For us between now and then, to live more fully in the joy God intends . . .