

East Side Church of God

Life Notes

Witness The Cry
December 20, 2009

Text: Matt 2:16-23; Jeremiah 31:15

Christmas Cry #1: Self-centered living causes us to cry out in **anger** and **vengeance**.

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. –Matthew 2:16 (ESV)

Christmas Cry #2: The suffering of the helpless causes us to cry out in **anguish** and **distress**.

Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: “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.” –Matthew 2:17-18 (ESV)

Christmas Cry #3: Living in an obedient relationship with God frees us to cry out in **joy** and **celebration**.

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.” –Matthew 2:19-23 (ESV)