



Surprising Origins

December 16, 2018

Tell me your story...where did you grow up?

Jesus, tell us your story...where did you grow up?

Well, it's kind of funny...

Surprising and strange origins!

Follow this [Strange Journey](#)

- **Nazareth** I'm from there
- **Bethlehem** I was born in a stable
- **Egypt** Spent some of my early childhood in Egypt

The Prophecy and Fulfillment

Matthew 2:23

²³and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Prophecy

Micah 5:2

²"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."

The Fulfillment

Matthew 2:1-2

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

The Prophecy

Hosea 11:1

¹ "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son."

The Fulfillment

Matthew 2:14-15

¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

The Sovereign God guides through every step of the journey!

Joseph's Journey

- Family turmoil
- Sibling "rivalry"
- Abandonment
- False accusations
- Imprisonment
- More!

Genesis 50:19-21

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

What about **your** journey?

God is on the throne!

God's hand is on you!

God cares about your story!

Psalm 139: 2-3, 7-10, 13-14, 16

² *You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.*

³ *You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.*

⁷ *Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?*

⁸ *If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.*

⁹ *If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,*

¹⁰ *even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.*

¹³ *For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.*

¹⁴ *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.*

¹⁶ *Your eyes saw my unformed body;
all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.*

Walking in the presence of the Sovereign God this Christmas

- I will **thank God** for His amazing gifts!
- I will **notice** how the Holy Spirit of God has guided (and guides) my steps
- I will **celebrate** my journey more and complain less
- When I feel down I will **look up and back** and recognize His hand
- I will **hold the hand of Jesus** who is writing my story because He is always with me...and sometimes that has to be enough!