There are numerous prophecies that speak of Christ in the OT that would have been known to the Jews about His first coming, resurrection, future kingdom, return, suffering, and Israel's restoration, etc.: Gen. 3:15, 2 Sam. 7:12-17, Job 19:25-27, Ps. 2:7-9, 16, 22, 68:28-35, 132:10-12, Is. 49:1-5, 50:1-6, 53:10-12, Dan. 7:9-14, 22-28, Hosea 3, Micah 2:12-13, 5:2-5, Zech. 12:10, 14. >What is the significance of Matt. 2:15 quoted from Hosea 11:1? Why should we follow Jesus?

<u>1st Instance of God's Protection: Because Jesus is the King of all the kings divinely protected</u> <u>by the Father</u>. V13, Joseph was warned in a dream to take his family to Egypt. V14, they left that very night. V15, leading to fulfillment of Jesus returning to Egypt. Rev. 12:1-6, Satan sought to kill Jesus using Herod to kill the young children of Israel, V16.

3 General Principles about prophecy:

1) <u>NT always uses OT in original context</u>. Hosea 11 meant what it said at that time. The OT is quoted throughout NT. The most times: Rom. 66x, Matt. 65x. There are allusions of the OT in the NT. >Three myths about OT quotations in the NT: a) No hidden divine meaning. b) Using Jewish hermeneutic (that doesn't exist) to make allegorical. c) NT reinterpreting OT, no replacement of Israel.

The <u>single meaning view</u>: meaning stays within the context of OT. NT writers didn't know all implications of their writings, but promises don't change, and it is not our right to reinterpret.

- 2) <u>Bible Prophecy has several variations</u>: a) Direct fulfillment, ex. Micah 5:2. b) Partially completed, Luke 4:18-19, Acts 2/Joel 2. c) Typology, Abel's blood being shed, Matt. 23:35, Moses is type of Christ.
- 3) <u>God sovereignly initiates historical connections and parallels</u>. The word "fulfill" is used by Matthew a number of times. The Jewish reader doesn't believe in coincidence.

3 Specific Principles about prophecy:

- 1) One represents the many: God revealing redemptive history from Genesis through Jesus.
- 2) <u>Direct connection of the phase "My Son."</u> My Son and Israel are connected in Scripture, Is. 49:3-6. Gen. 3:15: "Seed" is connected to Eve's offspring and Jesus, who will crush the serpent's head.

2nd Instance of God's Protection: Crossing into the Promise Land:

3) <u>Israel is connected to her coming King</u>. In the prophecies of Balaam in Num. Ch. 23-24. In V21-22, the "them" is Israel. In chapter 24:8, the "him" God brings out of Egypt is a singular king. Jesus fulfills the Exodus of Israel by escaping Herod. In Rom. 9:5 the patriarchs brought Jesus to us. 1 Chron. 2:10, Num. 1:4-7, Nashon, the leader of Judah, carries Jesus in his future offspring into the promise land from out of Egypt.

<u>3rd Instance of God's Protection: Jesus is the true representative of Israel who will save and restore Israel.</u> It is Jesus' goal to bring Jacob back to God and rule Israel, Is. 49:3-6. Jesus was caught up out of the presence of the dragon to return at another time to destroy the dragon, Satan, Rev. 12:5, 7-12. Jesus will consume His enemies, be exalted, and break into pieces all that oppose Him.

Our hope should rest firmly in Jesus who once was dead but is now alive (Rev. 1:18), who is the resurrection and the life (John 11:25) and was divinely protected from Genesis 3 to Acts 1:9 in order to save us and bring us safely back to Him.

Further Discussion and Application

Consider the brief listing of prophecies above that concern Jesus, His first coming, and return to be the King of Israel and the ruler over all the earth. What could be some of the purposes of God by revealing His Son to us in giving us His Scriptures and then coming as a baby to a humble family and then living among the people of Israel? What does God demonstrate about His plans and purposes?

God protects the coming of the Son, Messiah, and King even though God continually layers on prophecy after prophecy as we move through the ages from Genesis to Revelation. How does God's use of an overwhelming amount of evidence demonstrate His holy and divine attributes? Why do you think that He does that?

We are blessed with the Holy Spirit within us that we get to understand the plans and see the wisdom of God. How does the story of Jesus in Matthew chapter 1 and 2 demonstrate the wisdom of God?

How is Jesus carried by His ancestors throughout the Scriptures by the people of God and preserved until His crucifixion? The hope of these questions is that you will construct a narrative that reveals God's glory and His love for us.

God keeps His promises because He is faithful in all of His ways. How is God demonstrating His steadfast love and kindness in Matt. 2:13-15?