God and the
Hard Christmas
Matthew 2:13~23

God and the Hard Christmas

God and the Hard Christmas

1. The Escape to Egypt

God and the Hard Christmas

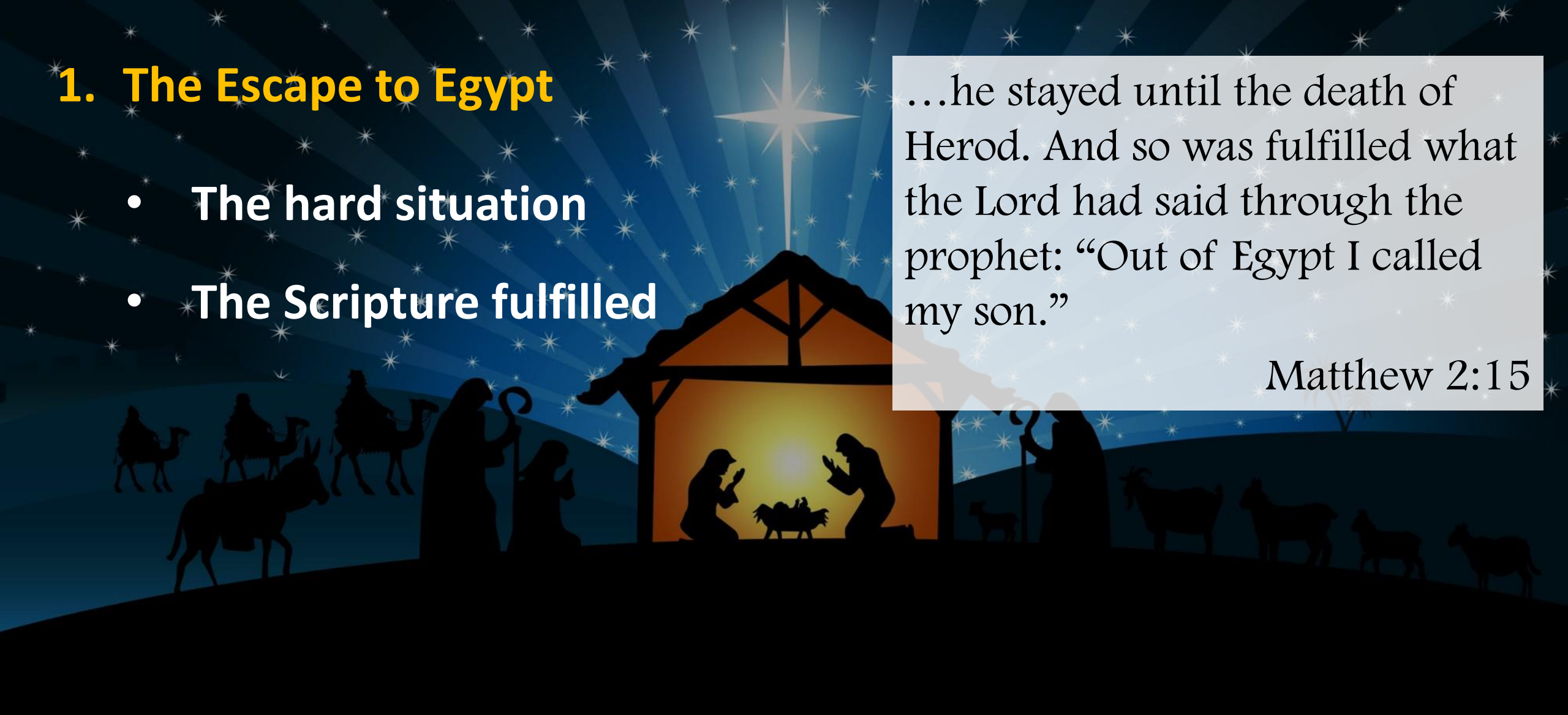
1. **The Escape to Egypt**
   - **The hard situation**

…an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt…

Matthew 2:13-14

God and the Hard Christmas

1. **The Escape to Egypt**
   - **The hard situation**
   - **The Scripture fulfilled**

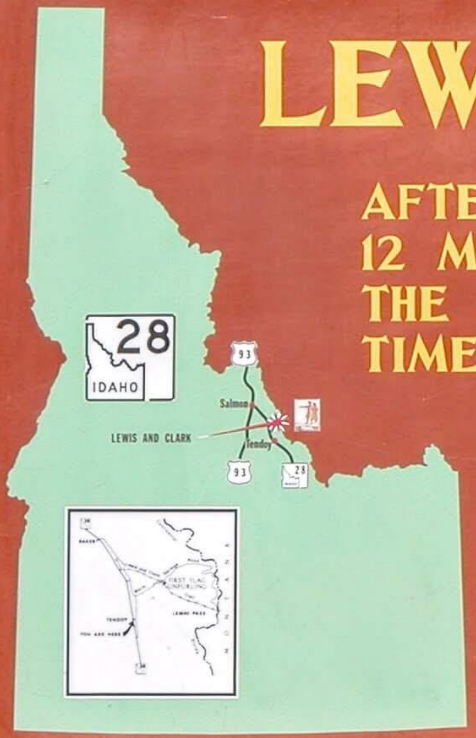


…he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

Matthew 2:15

LEWIS AND CLARK

AFTER CROSSING THROUGH LEMHI PASS, 12 MILES EAST OF HERE, LEWIS UNFURLED THE AMERICAN FLAG FOR THE FIRST TIME WEST OF THE ROCKIES.

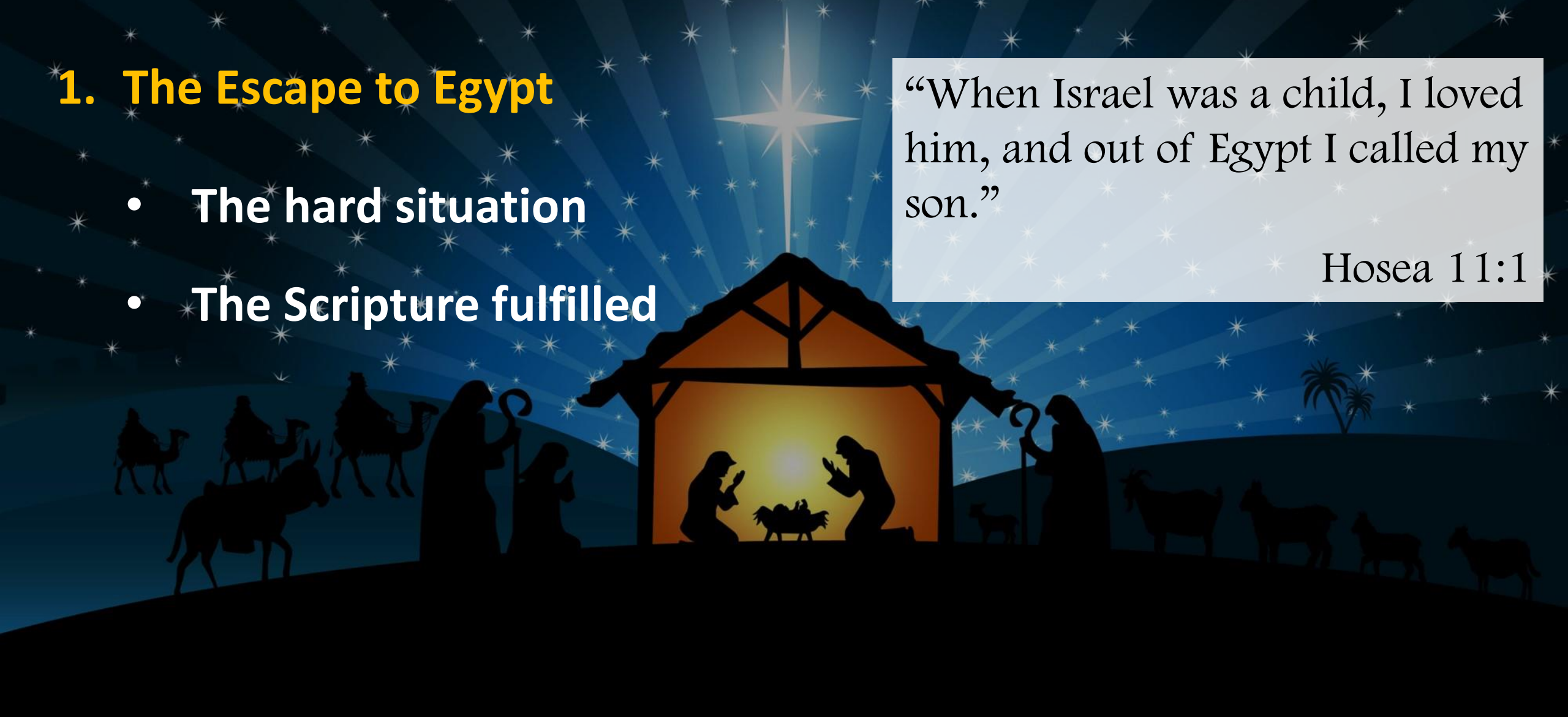


Meriwether Lewis met with 3 Shoshoni Indians near here on August 13, 1805. "....leaving my pack and rifle I took the flag, which I unfurled and advanced toward them", Lewis reported. The Warm Springs road leads to a marker at the site, about 8 miles from here.

TEXT PREPARED BY THE IDAHO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MARKER MADE & INSTALLED BY IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT.

God and the Hard Christmas

1. **The Escape to Egypt**
   - **The hard situation**
   - **The Scripture fulfilled**



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

Hosea 11:1

God and the Hard Christmas

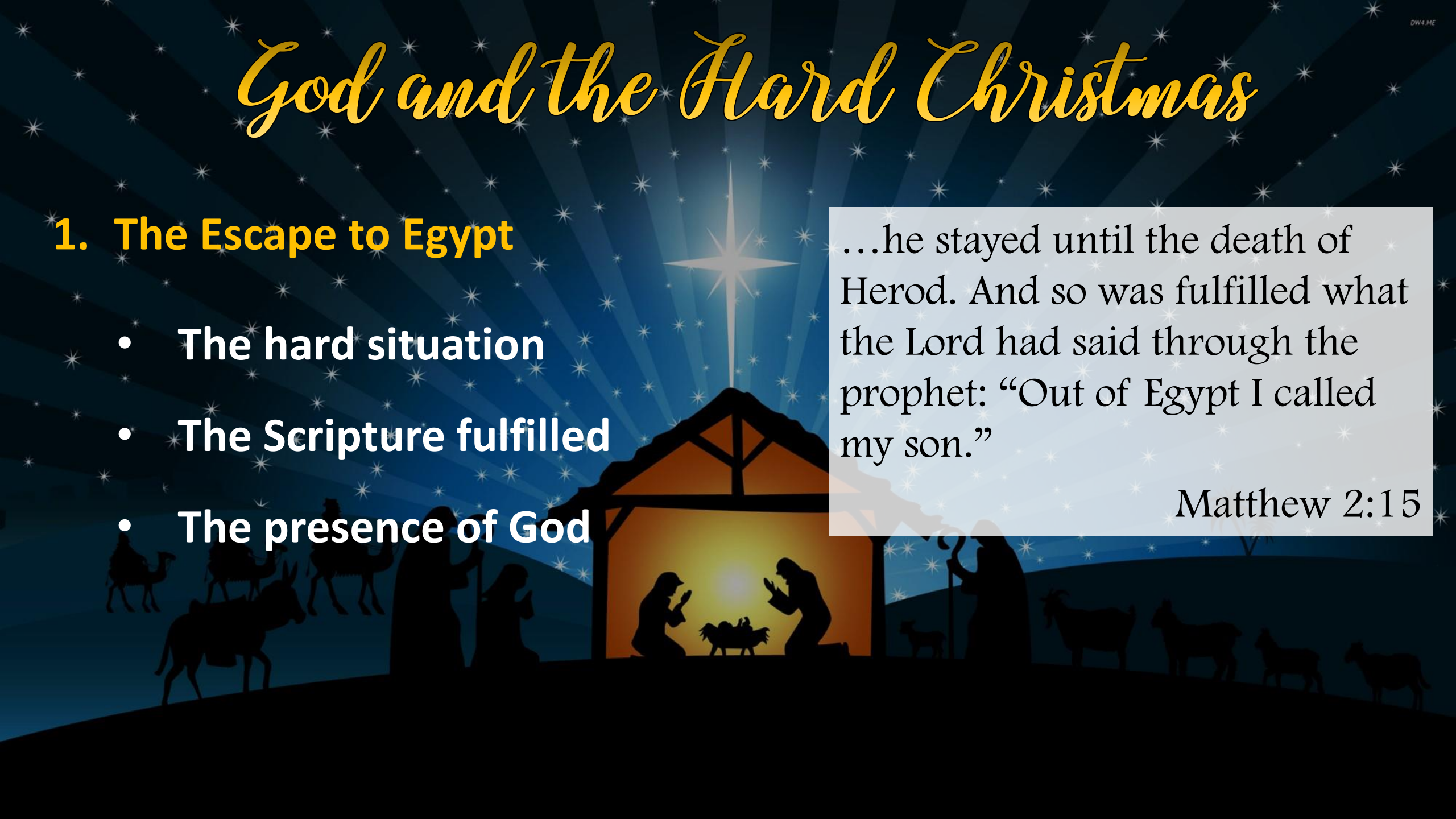
1. **The Escape to Egypt**
   - **The hard situation**
   - **The Scripture fulfilled**

But the more I called Israel, the further they went from me. They sacrificed to the Baals and they burned incense to images. It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by the arms; but they did not realize it was I who healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love…

Hosea 11:2-4

God and the Hard Christmas

1. **The Escape to Egypt**
   - **The hard situation**
   - **The Scripture fulfilled**
   - **The presence of God**



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>
> Matthew 2:15

God and the Hard Christmas

2. The Massacre of the Innocents

God and the Hard Christmas

2. The Massacre of the Innocents

- **The hard situation**

When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

Matthew 2:16

God and the Hard Christmas

2. The Massacre of the Innocents

- **The hard situation**
- **The Scripture fulfilled**

Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:
"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."

Matthew 2:17–18

God and the Hard Christmas

2. The Massacre of the Innocents

- The hard situation
- The Scripture fulfilled

This is what the LORD says:
"Restrain your voice from
weeping and your eyes from
tears, for your work will be
rewarded," declares the LORD.
"They will return from the land
of the enemy. So there is hope for
your future," declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 31:16–17

God and the Hard Christmas

2. The Massacre of the Innocents

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Jeremiah 31:16–17

God and the Hard Christmas

3. The Return to Nazareth

God and the Hard Christmas

3. The Return to Nazareth

- **The hard situation**

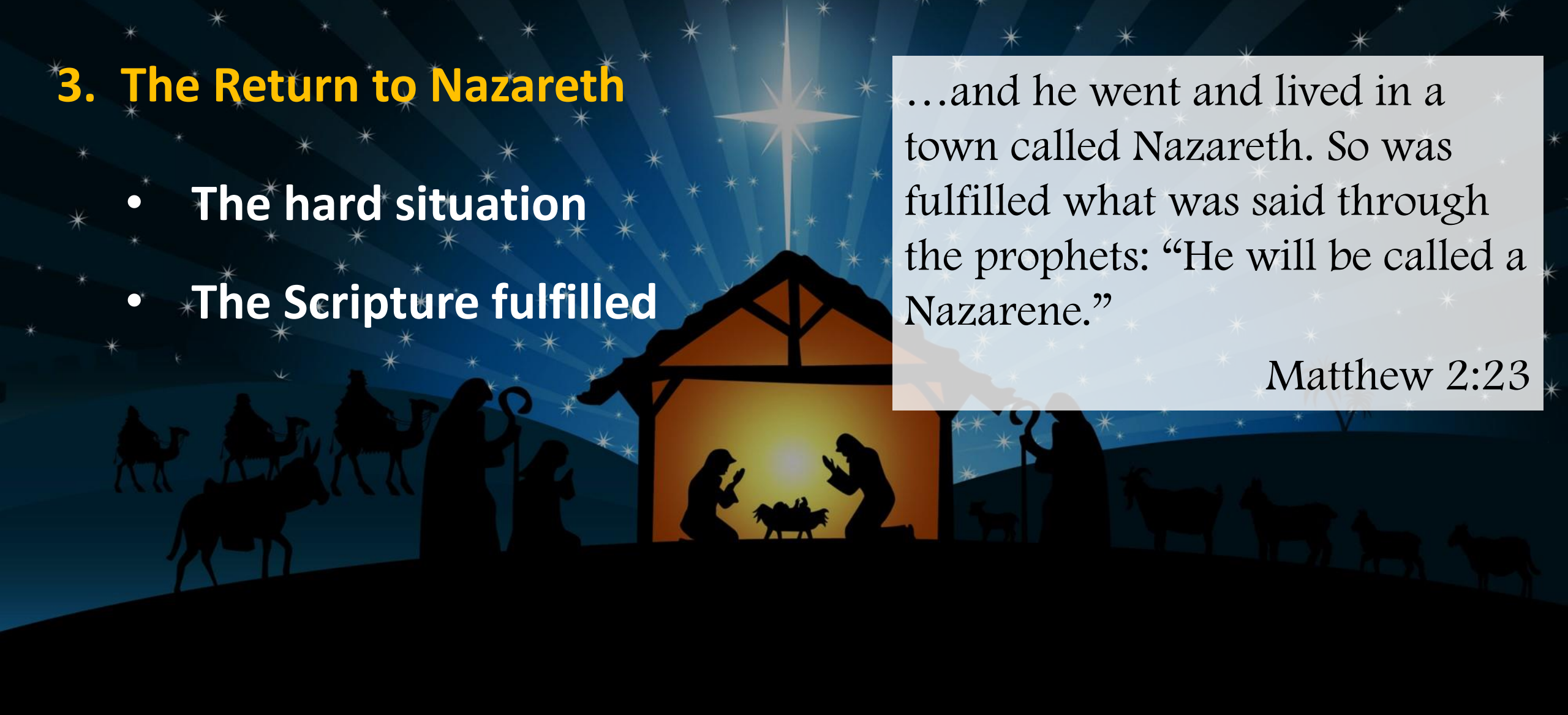
So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee…

Matthew 2:21–22

God and the Hard Christmas

3. The Return to Nazareth

- The hard situation
- The Scripture fulfilled



…and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: “He will be called a Nazarene.”

Matthew 2:23

God and the Hard Christmas

3. The Return to Nazareth

- The hard situation
- The Scripture fulfilled

…and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: "He will be called a Nazarene."

Matthew 2:23

Hebrew: neser
stick/branch

God and the Hard Christmas

3. The Return to Nazareth

- The hard situation
- The Scripture fulfilled

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

Isaiah 11:1

Hebrew: neser
stick/branch

God and the Hard Christmas

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- The hard situation
- The Scripture fulfilled
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Matthew 2:23

God and the Hard Christmas

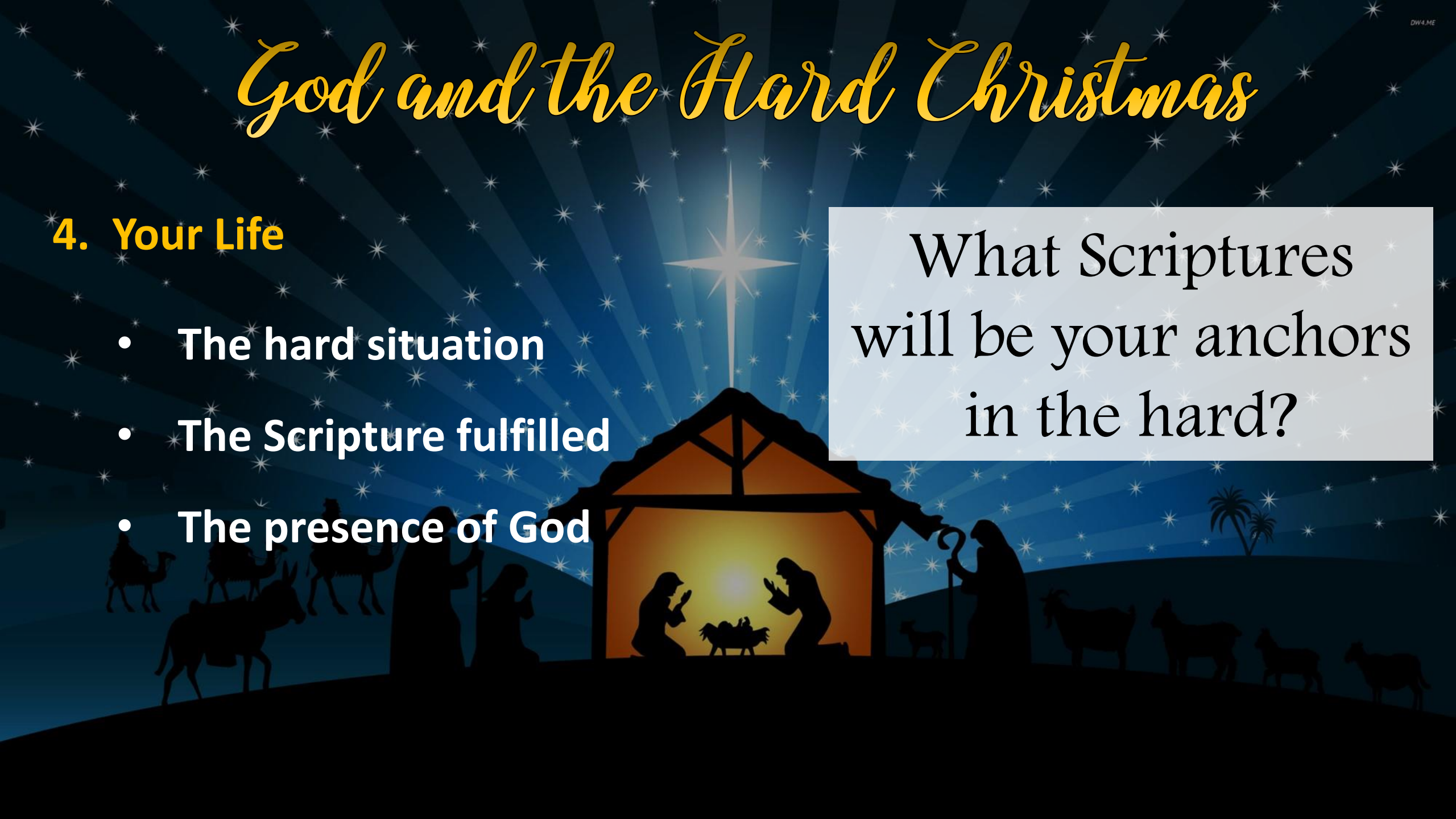
4. **Your Life**

    - **The hard situation**

God and the Hard Christmas

4. **Your Life**

- **The hard situation**
- **The Scripture fulfilled**
- **The presence of God**



What Scriptures will be your anchors in the hard?