

Book One
THE KING HIDDEN

Chapter Seven

FLIGHT

By Stephen H. Funck, January 7, 2016

MEALTIME AND FOLLOWING

Amahl and Mary came outside bringing food and wine for Joseph and the Magi. They went back inside, leaving the men to continue their conversation while they ate and continued theirs. Joseph told them more of the history of the nation. Actually he began with the story of the creation and fall. The two knew the Babylonian, Parthian and Egyptian creation stories from their conversations with astrologers. They even knew parts of the Greek - Roman myths. What Joseph told them was totally different.

In the stories they knew, the gods come out of the primordial chaos, fight and sort themselves into their positions. The gods are violent, promiscuous, capricious. They are powerful but neither wise or good. The God Joseph described was without beginning and without end, eternal. He created everything out of nothing and everything He created was perfect, good. Seven times God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, looked at what He had made, and proclaimed, it was very good.¹ It was a novel idea to them. The God created the first humans perfect to care for the perfect garden. They were naked and not ashamed. There was only one rule. One tree from which they were not allowed to eat fruit, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They did not know anything about evil. Somehow an evil spirit, in the shape of a serpent tempted the first humans to disobey. The serpent said if they ate from it they would be like god. God had said they would die, if they did. That is how sin, death, evil came into creation. The idea of sin was strange. It was not the same as doing something bad. It was imperfection, rebellion.

It was a little like the Greek story of Pandora opening a box, but there was a major difference. In this story, the god promised to save them from all evil and crush the serpent, some day. There was a flood story sort of like the Babylonian's. The real beginning of the rescue was with the father of Joseph's people, Abraham. He was an old man and childless. God promised to make his descendants a great nation and bless all peoples through his seed, a promised redeemer.

Joseph told them that His God tested Abraham by asking him to offer his only son, as a sacrifice where the Temple now stands. He demanded that old man kill his only son, the son God had promised him. The son carried the wood for the fire and lay down on it. When Abraham raised the knife, God stopped him. 'By Myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son, that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the seashore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast hearkened to My voice.'² The fat one said that was a horrible story. He did not care what kind of blessing came from it. The other one just shook his head.

¹ Genesis 1:31

² Genesis 22:16-18

Joseph said, "We are the children of Abraham, but not all have received the blessings God promised. Some of Abraham's sons have gone away and abandoned God, and some have been adopted in and become part of us." Joseph apologized for skipping over important parts of the story to when they were delivered from Egypt. They were 70 when they went there to escape a famine. They grew to be a large number and the Egyptians made them slaves. For 400 years they worshipped the God of Abraham and prayed for deliverance. God send a man named Moses. He had been out in the desert of Sinai when God called to him from a burning bush.

They said Bagoas had told them their god promised to make all the children of Abraham to be the greatest nation on earth, greater than Rome. All the wealth of the nations would flow to Jerusalem. They did not think it right that their god would make the descendants of Abraham the greatest of all people.

Joseph said, "The promise was to the descendants of Abraham, but some who were not blood descendants were counted in and some who were actually his children were removed."

"Then how can the promise be just to Abraham's children?"

"All I know is what the holy writings say. Two of the twelve tribes,³ Manasseh and Ephraim, are descendants of Joseph and his Egyptian wife, daughter of a Priest of On.⁴ Later when Joshua conquers the land and is ordered to kill the Canaanites, the Canaanite prostitute Rahab⁵ and her family are welcomed in. She is still considered one of the great ones of the nation. There are a number of other examples. The most visible are the Ethiopians who have been coming here to worship since the time of Solomon. They don't look at all like us."

"I saw some Ethiopians in the Temple. They count as Children of Abraham?"

"They have always been here. No one has ever said anything. At times they have been high officials."⁶

"So anyone can become a son of Abraham?"

"The Lord of Heaven and Earth made all the peoples and nations. This is the house for His Name, where He has commanded His worship. He always claims all peoples will come to Him and worship Him as their God and redeemer."

"You have your prophets and we have our stars. People come and look for advice. What they are to do in evil times."

MARY AND AMAHL

After Mary nursed the baby, Amahl wanted to hold him. He tried to get the baby to smile at him and was delighted when he did. He could not remember ever feeling so good, so warm and at peace. Except those two were still out there and they would be going back to Babylon. They did not travel well, long days walking in the sun, miserable inns, nothing was pleasant for them. Since life was normally unpleasant for Amahl the trip was not so bad. There were so many new things and people to see. It was an adventure. Mary got out her spinning and sang as she twirled the spindle.⁷

"What are you singing now?"

"Another Psalm."

"Would you translate it?"

³ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/12_tribes_of_Israel

⁴ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_\(Hebrew_Bible\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_(Hebrew_Bible))

⁵ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rahab>

⁶ Jeremiah 38:7-13

⁷ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hand_spinning

"It is a longer one full of complaint and ends in hope. 'O LORD, rebuke me not in Thine anger; neither chasten me in Thy wrath. For Thine arrows are gone deep into me, and Thy hand is come down upon me. There is no soundness in my flesh because of Thine indignation; neither is there any health in my bones because of my sin. For mine iniquities are gone over my head; as a heavy burden they are too heavy for me. My wounds are noisome, they fester, because of my foolishness. I am bent and bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day. For my loins are filled with burning; and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am benumbed and sore crushed; I groan by reason of the moaning of my heart. Lord, all my desire is before Thee; and my sighing is not hid from Thee. My heart fluttereth, my strength faileth me; as for the light of mine eyes, it also is gone from me. My friends and my companions stand aloof from my plague; and my kinsmen stand afar off. They also that seek after my life lay snares for me; and they that seek my hurt speak crafty devices, and utter deceits all the day. But I am as a deaf man, I hear not; and I am as a dumb man that openeth not his mouth. Yea, I am become as a man that heareth not, and in whose mouth are no arguments. For in Thee, O LORD, do I hope; Thou wilt answer, O Lord my God. For I said: 'Lest they rejoice over me; when my foot slippeth, they magnify themselves against me.' For I am ready to halt, and my pain is continually before me. For I do declare mine iniquity; I am full of care because of my sin. But mine enemies are strong in health; and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied. They also that repay evil for good are adversaries unto me, because I follow the thing that is good. Forsake me not, O LORD; O my God, be not far from me. Make haste to help me, O LORD, my salvation."⁸

"It is hard to understand. He is complaining because of evil men. God is hurting him. He is a sinner and deserves it. He asks God to help him. Why would you sing that?"

"It is one of the songs the Lord has given us to sing."

"Your God would have you sing that?"

"Sometimes we are surrounded by blessings. Life is good. Sometimes we are cast down. Life is evil. It is that way for everyone. We can not understand what is happening to us or what we can do, where we can go to find blessings again. So we pray."

"When I am miserable I don't know what to say. I am hurt and angry and frightened."

"The Lord, creator of all, is the father of all. He knows what we are like and the sufferings we bear."

"I never would have thought that. The gods are high, mighty and do not care."

"Forsake me not, O LORD; O my God, be not far from me. Make haste to help me, O LORD, my salvation."

"You think your god will help you?"

"All things are in His hands. He uses both good and evil to serve Him. We trust He will use them to bring us blessings in the end. We believe His promises."

"So if you believe, everything will be good."

"Not quite. 'Blessed is the person who delights in the teachings of the LORD'. Remember we pray, 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One. Blessed be the name of the glory of His kingdom forever and ever. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might.' He promises to bless His own people. Those who love and serve Him alone."

"So that makes you better than everyone else."

"It is not better or worse. We are all better or worse at times. There is no clear place to separate them."

"The Egyptians say god weighs the soul against a feather."

"So one little speck of dirt can determine if a person is forever with the gods or in darkness. Do you think that is fair?"

⁸ Psalm 38

"No, you could try your best and always wonder."

"Even the best have done evil and the worst some good. How could you decide good enough, too evil?"

"I don't know. I know how I feel, pushed back and forth, angry."

"Like no one cares for you?"

"Yes, no one on earth, the donkey is even more important. The gods don't."

"The Lord God made a promise to us. He would be your God, Amahl, and deliver you from all evil."

"That is hard to believe."

Mary said to Amahl that if he would grind the grain for the bread, she could keep spinning. The baby was sleeping and Amahl was happy to help.

THE MEN OUTSIDE

"We study the stars so we know just what the gods are doing. The times and seasons are fixed for all time. But it does not seem to always happen the way we think. We have to be cautious when we advise a client."

"Isn't there a story about a king who asked about a battle, misunderstood the astrologers and was destroyed?"

"Yes. The oracle said, if Croesus attacked the Persians, he would destroy a great empire. He thought it would be the Persians. The astrologers were right, but it was his own nation, Lydia, that was destroyed."⁹

"We have a proverb: 'It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; but the glory of kings is to search out a matter'.¹⁰ We remember His stories and believe."

"Joseph, you remember and believe. We have met some who do not."

"Yes, many only see the power and wealth of Herod and the Temple, Rome, Alexandria, Babylon. Greed and debauchery. And too many are proud of their piety, their knowledge of the scriptures. I think some would oppose God Almighty if He does not meet their ideas. 'Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding'.¹¹

"What Bagoas showed us, the palace, the city, the Temple was grander than anyone could imagine. He made it sound as if there was nothing even in Rome to compare."

"That is what I have heard. Many are proud of our own greatness. I have seen what some of those great men, even religious leaders, have done. Only God is great. And He is jealous."

"Jealous. You mean He may be unhappy with all that is being done to make Him look great?"

"I think it is better to believe the Lord God almighty. 'Abraham believed in the LORD; and He counted it to him for righteousness.'¹² He commands our obedience, to love and serve Him."

"I don't understand how a god could be unhappy if all this in his honor?"

"Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.¹³ The Lord removed King Saul from the throne because the king made a great sacrifice."

"We have not even talked about the baby that the gods brought us here to worship. What is this about?"

⁹ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Croesus>

¹⁰ Proverbs 25:2

¹¹ Proverbs 3:5

¹² Genesis 15:6

¹³ 1 Sam 15:22

"We do not know. God has given Mary this child. He arranged for me to watch over her and the child. It was not something we sought. He has revealed very little to us. Except He has made it very clear this is the promised Messiah, His chosen Son. He is the Savior, Redeemer of the world promised to Abraham and through all the prophets."

"What will He do? How can a baby save the whole world?"

"We do not know? He has led us one step at a time. We do not know the future."

"What makes you think foreigners should come to worship your God?"

"Your coming reminded me of something Isaiah the prophet wrote: 'upon thee the LORD will arise, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And nations shall walk at thy light, and kings at the brightness of thy rising.'¹⁴ I know you are not kings but you have seen the brightness of his star rising. He continued saying His sons would come from afar."

"We certainly saw god's star shine on us and came a long way."

"The prophet also said camels would come and they would bring gold and incense."¹⁵

"We did bring gold and incense."

The other added, "We brought frankincense and myrrh. I was so surprised by the star showing us this small house, seeing the Lady and the baby, we forgot to give them to you."

"The tall one added, "In my family there are stories we have come from royalty."

Joseph replied, "Kings bearing royal gifts. The infant would be honored by your gifts. He is so normal. a baby boy, yet the Lord God even made the stars move to announce His birth to you. He is much more than what He appears to be. We are in awe."

"I would like to go and see this baby again and give him our gifts."

THE GIFTS

The magi squeezed into the little house. Amahl was mashed into a corner. They prostrated before Mary and she held the infant upright so Yeshua could see them. They were thrilled that the baby looked at them and smiled. The tall one made a speech in his best Greek offering their gifts to the baby. Yeshua reached out, touched the gifts, waved His arms at them and laughed. They were enthralled. Mary thanked them on behalf of the baby in her best Greek. Joseph was surprised. He didn't know she knew any Greek and wondered what else the daughter of a merchant might know. There were gold and frankincense¹⁶ and myrrh¹⁷. The Magi spent some time looking at the baby, quietly. Finally they bowed again and backed out. Mary changed the baby and went off to wash the swaddling clothes.

When Mary returned, Amahl helped her spread the wet cloths out on the ground to dry. He held the baby, Mary went back to spinning and they continued their conversation. "Lady, where I live in Babylon, the house and life look pleasant but inside my heart I am miserable. Here you seem to be so happy yet you have the smallest cottage and seem to be avoiding the people of town. I know everything is not good for you."

"You are very observant. What does that make you think?"

"Happiness doesn't depend on what is around you. What you have. Why are you happy?"

¹⁴ Isaiah 45:15

¹⁵ Isaiah 60:3-6 Psalm 72:10

¹⁶ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankincense>

¹⁷ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myrrh>

"The Lord God Almighty has promised to bless me forever. Even when the situation is evil, I know I can trust Him."

"Why do you think that?"

"All the stories of the scripture tell how God has taken care of His people, at least those who trust in Him."

"So that means everything will be well with you, you will always have money and good health?"

"My friend, died leaving six young children. She was always poor. She loved God. She loved to sing His praises."

"So what did her god do for her?"

"He forgave all her sins and promised she would live in His heavenly courts forever."

"So she was a bad woman, a sinner."

"She was very good. She was a good mother, good wife, one of the best. We are all sinners, the best and worst of us. No one is righteous, holy like God is. Do you deserve to live in God's house forever?"

"If I could believe god was good? Yes. You say god is loving and kind?"

"He loves you with an everlasting love. All He asks is that you really love Him. Remember how the Shema begins. 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One. Blessed be the name of the glory of His kingdom forever and ever. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words which I command you today shall be upon your heart.' He will be your God, your savior, redeemer from all evil forever. All He wants is your love."

"You are so kind."

"We love and serve Him. That makes a difference."

Amahl breaks down into sobs, Mary reaches out and takes him into her arms as he cries for all the years of pain. Finally he relaxes and rests with her arms around him. "Comfort, peace, shalom", she says to him. He straightens up and looks in her eyes. "Can I call you mother?"

"I would like that, Amahl."

"That makes Yeshua my brother."

"He would like to be your brother. I will always carry you in my heart, keep you in my prayers Never forget, never doubt I will always love you."

"How can a little baby be my savior?"

"You saw the star God placed in the sky. How could God do that?"

"They didn't see it. They would have gone the wrong way. I pleaded with them to just look."

THE MEN OUTSIDE

Joseph begins asking them about the gods of Babylon. He tells them the Prophet Daniel tells a story of what goes on in their temples when Cyrus was emperor. There was a god Bel that was given great amounts of food. Daniel proved to the emperor that the god did not eat it, the priests and their families came in a secret entrance and ate the food.¹⁸ "

The pair laughed. They did not know that story. They did know the priests ate the food given to the gods. "Don't your priests eat from what is offered also?"

¹⁸ Bel and the Dragon is in an addition to Daniel that is no longer considered an original part of the book. <http://www.sacred-texts.com/bib/poly/bel.htm> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bel_and_the_Dragon

“Yes they do. We all know that. I think the story is more about the deception. Those priest were claiming the statue of their god was actually alive and ate the food himself. We know God is higher than the heavens. It is His Spirit, His Shekinah, that is here. This Temple is for us a place to gather and worship.”

“I don’t know how you can think the way you do? Your minds are very strange.”

“We are sinners by birth. Our minds are darkened. ‘Let thy thoughts be upon the precepts of God, and meditate continually on His commandments: and He will give thee a heart, and the desire of wisdom shall be given to thee.’¹⁹ The more we study God’s words and meditate on them, the more our minds are changed to be like His mind.”

“It doesn’t seem to work for other men we have met here.”

“Many twist the Words of God to make themselves great, to say what they want them to say. ‘For it is not necessary for thee to see with thy eyes those things that are hid. In unnecessary matters be not over curious, and in many of His works thou shalt not be inquisitive. For many are deceived by their own vain opinion; and an evil suspicion hath overthrown their judgment.’²⁰ God is chesed, merciful, forgiving, patient. His presence is deep peace, shalom. Those who are filled with anger, harsh and unforgiving, claim to serve His righteous power, judgment. They serve their own dark hearts.”

“You talk as if those in what you call darkness are both outside the nation and inside, of your own people.”

“I am also still afflicted by evil inside and out. All I can do is obey God and seek His blessing, guidance. He commands me to love Him and to love all He has made. I do my best and ask Him to forgive where I fall short and bless where I serve Him well. He is the eternal Judge, always righteous. I depend on His mercy.”

“Why would your god reveal his star to us in Babylon? We have nothing to do with him. There are Jewish astrologers there. He should have called them.”

“I do not know. What do you think He expects of you?”

“He wanted us to come and see. I would think he would want us also to worship him.”

“I wonder if there is more? Those who are His people are to obey and serve Him.”

“I am not so sure I want to obey your god. He is inconvenient. He commands what I do not want to do and forbids what I do want to do.”

“As he changes our hearts and minds that becomes easier. We want to do what He commands. It is a joy, not a burden. It comes from study, meditation, worship.”

THE DEPARTURE

Mary and Amahl brought out bread, figs and wine. As they were serving them Amahl called Mary, ‘mother’. The pair were shocked, angry. The fat one reached to strike him for his impertinence. He saw the love in Mary’s eyes looking on Amahl. That stopped his hand. He wished someone would look on him with such love. Joseph said, ‘Thank you, son.’ to Amahl and also looked with love on him. It was all very new, unusual to the Magi.

The men returned to their conversation. “Is there a prophecy that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem?”

¹⁹ [Ecclesiasticus](http://www.biblicalproportions.com/bible/11/SIR/6) also called Sirach 6:37 This was later classified as a second class book and is omitted from most Bibles <http://www.biblicalproportions.com/bible/11/SIR/6> [Douay-Rheims Catholic Bible](#) »

²⁰ Ecclesiasticus - Sirach 3:23-24 [Douay-Rheims Catholic Bible](#) »

“Born here, Bethlehem? The Messiah is son of David. He was born here. Maybe there is something ‘And you Bethlehem little in the land of Judea out of you will come one who is to rule. Whose goings are from of old, ancient of days.’²¹ It is something like that. I don’t have all the scriptures learned perfectly. Why do you ask?”

“When we asked King Herod to see the new born king, he asked the priests and they said we were to look in Bethlehem. He told us to report back when we found him.”

“Mary, Herod knows we are here!” She looked dismayed and bowed her head.

“We have upset you. What is wrong?”

“Herod kills everyone he suspects is a threat to his throne. His wife, sons, many others, some not so long ago. We have been trying to keep out of sight. Not attract any attention.” Joseph stood raised his arm and began to pray. “Lord Almighty, ruler of the nations, be a strong fortress, our shield and defender, keep our feet from slipping.”

The Magi looked at each other as it dawned on them how serious this was. Mary also stood holding the baby in her left arm while she raised her right. She was quietly singing the Psalm that begins ‘God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.’²² Amahl was in back of the Magi, so he too stood with his arms raised.

The tall Magi said, “We both had the same dream last night. We were told not to go back to the king but to leave another way.”

“He will try to track you down. He will try to track us down. Mary, what can we do?”

“Joseph, God has led us each step of the way. He has watched over us, protected us and blessed us.”

Joseph said to the Magi, “All things are in God’s hands. Nothing Herod tries to do can harm you without His permission. Nothing we do can prevent harm, if God has allowed it. We can only pray for His guidance and protection.”

“We should get everything ready so we can leave today.”

Amahl was talking with Mary. “Mother, I have just found you and now I am losing you.”

“Amahl, I will always be your mother. No matter where you go or how far away. I will always carry you in my heart. I will always pray for your blessing and safety.”

“I will find you again. I promise.”

“I know you will. I will always be looking for you. I am sure I will be very happy to see how well God has blessed you.”

Joseph told the Magi, “You have been given a great responsibility by God. You of all the people of the east have seen the star and seen the promised redeemer of all nations. You can not keep this a secret. You must tell everyone what you have seen.”

“No one will believe us. We are not even very important to the other astrologers in Babylon.”

“Do not worry if men do not believe you. That is on them. If you keep telling what you have seen, the word will get to those God intends it for.”

“What is going to happen to you and the baby?”

“I have no idea. A little baby can’t do anything. I would think he will have to grow up first. It will be many years. I hope we won’t have to hide all that time.”

“That is going to be an unbelievable story to pass on.”

²¹ Micah 5:2 jps

²² Psalm 46 jps

"There are many of our nation in the east. Only some are in Babylon. They should be looking for the Messiah. They should be waiting to hear the news."

"He is not even our god."

"I pray the Lord almighty will become your God. He sent this child to be your redeemer."

"Let us see if we get safely home."

They asked Joseph where they should go.

"Herod will be looking for you. God will protect you but you must not put yourself in danger. If you take the road south from Bethlehem, you will come to a town with a road east to the sea. At the sea the road has much traffic from Egypt. You will blend in. Stay going north along the coast."

"We will still be going through Herod's kingdom."

"He will be looking for two Magi. Maybe if one goes with the boy and the other follows an hour or so behind. Few have seen your faces. If Herod goes to Caesarea, he built a great palace there²³, you might be recognized. Ask if he is there. If he is, avoid it. He might watch the road to Damascus. Go north to Antioch. You should even find business along the way for your fortunetelling."

It was hard for Amahl to let Mary go and keep from crying as he left. Joseph again called him son and clapped him on the shoulder. The Magi and Amahl prostrated before the baby and departed. They came to the next town, the road to the sea, and camped for the night.

THE HERODIUM

That evening, before the soldiers for the morning duty had retired, the plans had been settled. Most of the revelers were unaware of the news that came late in the day. It had ruined the festivities for some others. Back at the Temple the discussion - argument finally had ended. Some wanted to conceal the news of Anna shouting Hallelujahs, telling everyone that the Messiah had come to the Temple, that she had seen him. They all knew she was just a crazy old woman. Others charged it would make no difference, when the king learned, they had kept this news from him, their lives would be forfeit. The Captain of the Temple guard, his assistant and two of the guards who had talked with Anna came to the Herodium and told the king.

The King was disturbed by the report but also distracted, anticipating the evening revelry. However when report came from the post on the road south of Bethlehem that the two Magi and camels were seen going further south, fate was sealed. Jason was in charge of the morning action.

Mary and Joseph decided to relax the rest of the day and leave in the morning. They would be able to blend in with all the other travelers, maybe they should go to the sea before heading up to Galilee. Mary also needed the time to replace the food for the trip. The Magi and boy ate half of what she had prepared. They prayed the Shema as always and lay down to sleep. Joseph was awaked by a dream. "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

Joseph did not want to take the same road the Magi took. The desert road led right by the Herodium where Herod was. They were well past before last light of the moon. "Mary we can rest here. Herod won't be looking for us on this road."

²³ <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/vie/Caesarea.html> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caesarea_Maritima <http://www.thebestinheritage.com/presentations/2006/atat--continuum-group,78.html>

Questions. These are questions that were in my mind that I attempted to answer as I was writing.

What would the visit of the Magi be like?

What would they talk about?

Were both the dream of the Magi and Joseph's dream the same night?

How does this story affect your understanding of Mary and Joseph and what it meant for them to be called by God to parent Jesus?

The Gospels record the events of Jesus life. They do not include the background information everyone knew at the time they were written. The following includes that background faithful to what is known about the history and culture. I hope this provokes-in a good way-the reader to think deeply about the Scriptural account. Go to my web site for more. <http://thesignofconcord.com> . They are in the section titled "King of Kings". There is also a section titled "King of Kings Supplements" with additional information.

If you do not think this reflects the culture and historic situation, how would you tell the story?

Many thanks to my patient wife Lynne for repeatedly proofreading.

Scriptures are from Jewish Publication Society of America 1917 Version. The New Testament quotes are ESV.