

SERVANTS OF CHRISTMAS

ORDINARY PEOPLE IN AN EXTRAORDINARY PLAN

Sunday Morning, December 10, 2023 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Message Title: Joseph-He Did As He Was Bidden

Message Text: Matthew 1:18-25

Introduction:

Can you imagine the level of confusion, hurt and even betrayal that must of welled up in the heart and mind of Joseph when he found out that Mary was pregnant? He loved her! His whole life was changing! What was he to do with Mary? Should he proceed with marriage? Should he divorce her according to the Jewish law? As Joseph wrestled with what to do, the Angel of the Lord appeared and help him to understand all that was happening in Mary and their lives. He gave clear instruction for Joseph to follow and Joseph's servant-like response is summed up for our example in the words he "...*did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him...*"

1. A _____ Heart (18-19)

A. A _____ Couple (18a)

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph...

DEFINITION—ESPOUSED: It was considered the beginning of marriage, and since it was legally binding—a pledge. (*Manners and Customs of the Bible*)

NOTE — Marriage is God's design and is a lifelong covenant between one man and one woman.

B. A Discovered _____ (18b)

Matthew 1:18 ...before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

scan for
sermon notes



1 Corinthians 6:18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.

FOUND WITH CHILD — likely the second trimester

BY THE HOLY GHOST (*Luke 1:35*)

C. A Difficult _____ (19)

Matthew 1:19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

DEFINITION—JUST: righteous in heart and conduct (like Zachariah, Elizabeth, Anna, Simeon)

QUOTE: He truly loved his betrothed wife and was torn with grief because of what his eyes saw in this gentle maiden whom he had always found a model of purity and who still bore this character. —Lenski

TWO OPTIONS FOR JOSEPH — Public disgrace or private divorce

NOTE — Espousal could not be broken except by a bill of divorce. This is the reason why Joseph is referred to as the husband of Mary in verse 19 of the first chapter of Matthew. (Manners and Customs of the Bible)

QUOTE: A spiritual person takes a big issue and makes it smaller. A carnal person takes a little issue and makes it bigger.

2. A _____ Revelation (20-23)

A. A _____ Word (20-21)

NOTE — The Angel of the Lord was both involved in the announcement of Christ's birth and His resurrection (28:2).

Matthew 1:20–21 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David

DEFINITION—THOUGHT: to meditate; to reflect deeply on a subject.

JOSEPH — SON OF DAVID

QUOTE: Both Mary and Joseph belonged to the house of David. The Old Testament prophecies indicated that the Messiah would be born of a woman (Gen. 3:15), of the seed of Abraham (Gen. 22:18), through the tribe of Judah (Gen. 49:10), and of the family of David (2 Sam.

7:12–13). Matthew’s genealogy traced the line through Solomon, while Luke’s traced it through Nathan, another one of David’s sons. — Wiersbe

B. A _____ Word (20-21)

Matthew 1:20–21 ... fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

THE ANGELS ANNOUNCEMENT

“...*fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife...*”

“... *that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.*”

“...*she shall bring forth a son...*”

“...*thou shalt call his name JESUS...*”

QUOTE: There were many Jewish boys with the name Joshua (or, in the Greek, Jesus); but Mary’s Boy was called “Jesus the Christ.” The word Christ means “anointed”; it is the Greek equivalent of Messiah. He is “Jesus the Messiah.” Jesus is His human name; Christ is His official title; and Immanuel describes who He is—“God with us.” Jesus Christ is God! —Wiersbe

Luke 19:10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

Mark 1:15 And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

C. A _____ Word (22-23)

Matthew 1:22–23 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

EMMANUEL — God with us.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, And shall call his name Immanuel.

Psalms 119:89 For ever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven.

3. A _____ Husband (24-25)

A. _____ to the Lord (24)

Matthew 1:24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

How JOSEPH OBEYED THE LORD

If you want to be
a good husband,
be a good
Christian first.

JIM BERG

B. _____ in his Role (25)

Matthew 1:24-25 ...and took unto him his wife: 25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

HE _____ MARY AS HIS WIFE.

Matthew 19:5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?

HE _____ MARY AND WHAT GOD WAS DOING IN HER LIFE.

QUOTE: The angel's revelation to Joseph concerning the divine nature of the child Mary had conceived, to which was undoubtedly added Mary's communication about Gabriel's appearance and revelation to her, caused Joseph to forego this marital right. —Lenski

See 1 Corinthians 7:3-5

HE WAS _____ TO LEADING HIS FAMILY SPIRITUALLY
ACCORDING TO GOD'S WORD.

NOTE — The naming of a child was the father's responsibility and role. (*See Luke 1:62-63*)

Conclusion

QUOTE: The first duty of every soul is to find not its freedom but its Master. —
Peter T. Forsythe



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