

Christmas Perspectives

Christmas Through a Man's Eyes

I. Introduction

- A. Matt. 1:19 (CEV) *Joseph was a good man and did not want to embarrass Mary in front of everyone. So he decided to quietly call off the wedding.*

II. Characteristics of Joseph

- A. He chose an honorable profession.
1. Col. 3:23 (NAS) *Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men.*
 2. II Thess. 3:10 (NAS) *For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either.*
- B. He loved a woman enough to make a life-time commitment to her.
1. Matt. 1:18a (NLT) *Now this is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph.*
- C. He honored God with his sexuality.
1. Matt 1:18 (NAS) *Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.*
- D. He treated Mary graciously.
1. Matt. 1:19 (NAS) *And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly.*
- E. He was capable of hearing and obeying supernatural instruction.
1. Matt. 1:20-21 (NAS) *²⁰But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."*
- F. He became a fully-engaged father.
1. Luke 2:52 (NAS) *And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.*
 2. I Cor. 6:18 (NLT) *Run away from sexual sin! No other sin so clearly affects the body as this one does. For sexual immorality is a sin against your own body.*

III. Conclusion

Upcoming Messages: 12/9-10, 2006 "Christmas Through a Woman's Eyes"; 12/16-17, 2006 "Christmas Through a Child's Eyes"