



Joseph's CHRISTMAS

**26 In the sixth month the Angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,
27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the House of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.**

**28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings,
O favored one, the Lord is with you!"**

29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

- Luke 1:26-29



1⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

1⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

2⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

2¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

- Matthew 1:18-25



²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us).

²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,

²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called His name Jesus.

- Matthew 1:18-25



THE PICTURE:

- Engagement – Joseph & Mary are...
 - Busy, Apart, Preparing, Focused
- After getting shocking news...
 - Not willing to put Mary to shame – Divorce Quietly
- While “considering” – An Angel appears & says...
 - Do NOT fear to take Mary & marry her
 - The Son is from the Holy Spirit
 - He will be named Jesus
 - He will save His people from their sins



PROPHECY & PLAN:

- Prophecy – Isaiah 7:14 – *“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign:”*
 - *“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son & shall call His name Immanuel.”*
- Joseph got up & obeyed:
 - Married Mary
 - Did NOT “Know Her” until after birth
 - Named Him Jesus



**** IMMANUEL – “GOD WITH US” ****

JOHN 1:1 – *“THE WORD BECAME FLESH & DWELT AMONG US”*

22 And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord

23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”)

24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”



Luke 2:22-24

Praise & Penance-

- **Two Turtle Doves – Lev. 1, Lev. 5, Lev. 12, Lev. 15**
 - **One – Burnt Offering** (Total Surrender to God) Lev 1
 - **One – Sin Offering** (Atonement for Sin) Lev 5
- **Birds instead of Lamb – Affordable**
 - Publicly identified Jesus with the poor
 - Joseph & Mary –
 - Dedicated, Obedient, Faithful, Humble



13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him.”

14 And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night and departed to Egypt

15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.”

- Matthew 2:13-15



Protection & Provision

- **AFTER** the Wise Men left –
 - Angel says to “flee” to Egypt & stay ‘indefinitely’
 - Wise Men gifts provided for the ‘unplanned’ journey



Joseph – Listened and Obeyed

- “And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night and departed to Egypt”

19 But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

20 saying, “Rise, take the Child and His mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child's life are dead.”

21 And he rose and took the Child and His mother and went to the land of Israel.



- Matthew 2:19-23

22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.

23 And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that He would be called a Nazarene.



- Matthew 2:19-23

Purposeful & Prudent -

- Third visit from an Angel to Joseph
 - Each time are instructions that dramatically change his families' lives.
 - Each Time Joseph Listens and Obeys!
- The first years of Joseph and Mary's Family were NOT normal, but they did show the Character of the parents of Jesus!



No Words Necessary -

- **The Bible does not record a single word Joseph says – but his actions and character speak volumes!**



Look at our lives -

- Are we more talk than actions?

This Christmas –

– Live Out “Immanuel”