

What Would You Do?

You are married and learn your wife is pregnant

Deuteronomy 22:13-21 (p 227)

This is the story of Joseph and Mary *Matthew 1:18-25 (p 1111)*





Joseph's father was Heli Luke 3:23 (p 1182)

Customary among the Jews to contract matrimony, and for some considerable time to leave the parties in the houses of their respective parents.

Deuteronomy 24:5 (p 229)

Luke 14:20 (p 1203)



The cultural stipulation of marriage was essential for the birth of Jesus

Matthew 1:23 (p 1112)

A covenant was made Malachi 2:14 (p 1105)

Terminated by death, divorce, or unfaithfulness

Deuteronomy 22:22-24 (p 227)

Mary knew the reason for her pregnancy Luke 1:31-35 (p 1178)

Law of Moses called for the death of any espoused woman found unfaithful

Deuteronomy 22:23-24 (p 227)



The Nazarene's who attack Jesus' presumptions to divine authority do not give the slightest hint of slander regarding a "premature", thus illegitimate birth.

Matthew 13:54-58 (p 1128)





Feel the pain in Joseph's entire being as he is torn between his deep love for Mary and his keen consciousness of what is right before God.

Two courses to take:

- 1 Public exposure and consequences
- 2 Write a "bill of divorcement"



The angel comes to Joseph to calm his troubled spirit

Matthew 1:20-23 (p 1111)

- 1. Explains why Mary is pregnant
- 2. She will have a SON
- 3. His name will be JESUS
- 4. His life work will be to save His people from their sins

Isaiah 7:14 (p 790)



Joseph does not hesitate at the calling of the angel Matthew 1:24 (p 1111) He completes marriage

Another reason for Jesus to be born in Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-7 (p 1179)

Nazareth = = = Bethlehem: @ 80 miles



Luke 1:34-38 (p 1178)

Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elizabeth



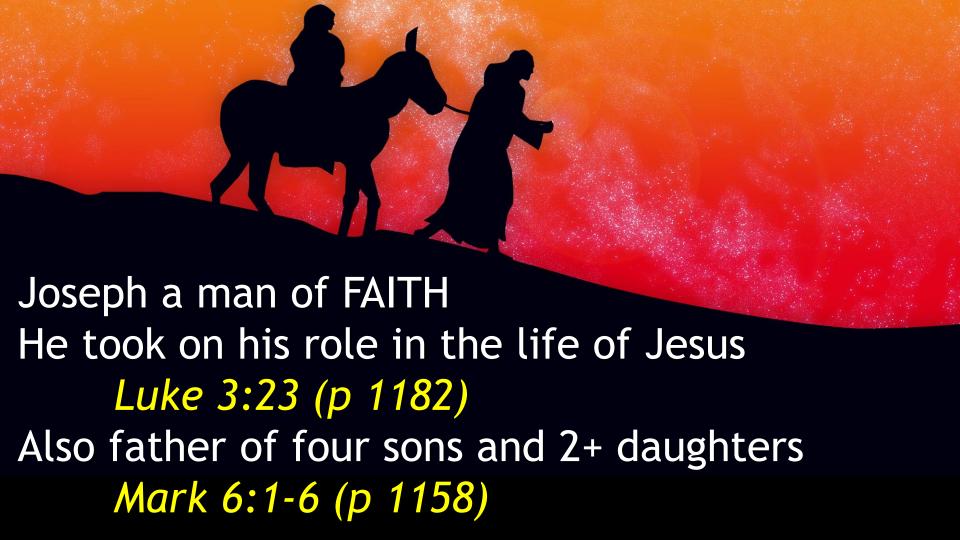
Luke 1:34-38 (p 1178)

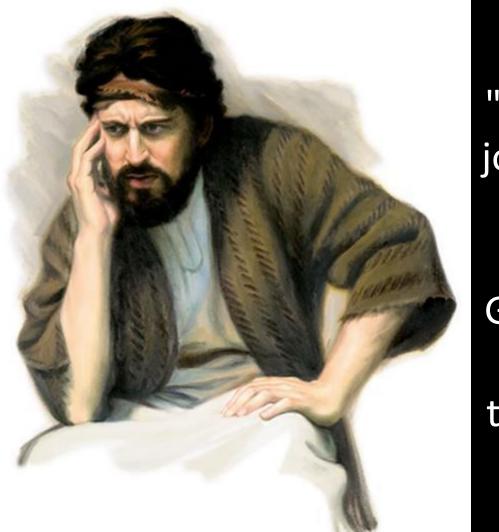
your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible." Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.



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Harold Fowler writes, "Far beyond all earthly joys was their supreme moral satisfaction of being submitted to God's will and of being permitted to become the guardians of God's Son."



Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.