

Message Notes

From the perspective of Joseph

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction - A Christmas Carol

Christmas Sermon Series:
Awkward Family Photos

Today's message:
Jesus' birth from the perspective of Joseph

"You're what!?!?"
Matthew 1:18

Joseph was a "righteous" man
Matthew 1:19

"The Holy Spirit did what!?!?"
Matthew 1:20

The name "Jesus"
Matthew 1:21

"The Scripture said what!?!?"
Matthew 1:22-23

Joseph was a "righteous" man
Matthew 1:24-25

"Herod is trying to do what!?!?"
Matthew 2:13

Joseph was a "righteous" man
Matthew 2:14-15

The importance of the Incarnation of Jesus the Messiah from the perspective of Joseph

The importance of the Incarnation of Jesus the Messiah for us

Gospel Application

#averyhopechristmas

Matthew 1:18-25

18 This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

25 But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Matthew 2:13-15

13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.

"Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." 14 So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, 15 where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

Bell  Bank
presents

A Christmas Carol







Awkward



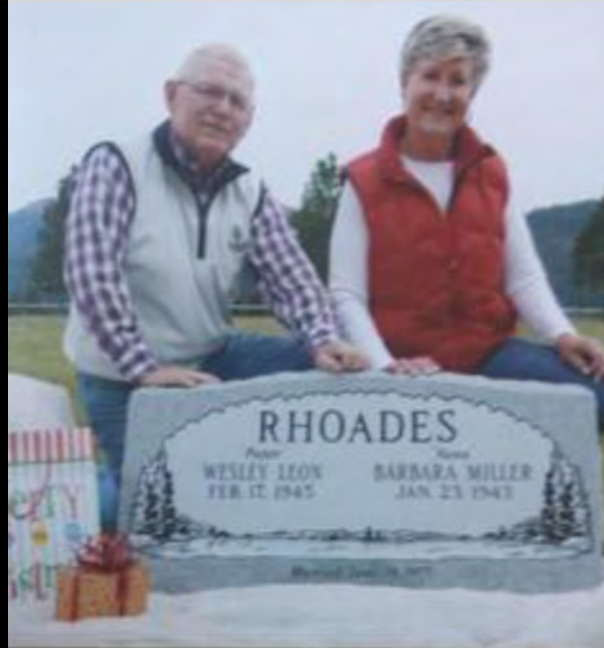
Family



Photos













Today's Message:

Jesus' birth from the perspective of Joseph

Matthew 1:18-25, 2:13-15

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Matthew 1:18-25, 2:13-15

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The Incarnation

Matthew 1:18a

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The Chalcedon Council – Oct 8 to Nov 1, 451 A.D.

“We, then, following the holy Fathers, all with one consent, teach men [people] to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a reasonable [rational] soul and body; consubstantial [coessential] with the Father according to the Godhead, and consubstantial with us according to the Manhood; in all things like unto us, without sin; begotten before all ages of the Father according to the Godhead, and in these latter days, for us and for our salvation, born of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, according to the Manhood;

The Chalcedon Council – Oct 8 to Nov 1, 451 A.D.

“one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, to be acknowledged in two natures, inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; the distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union, but rather the property of each nature being preserved and concurring in one Person and one Subsistence, not parted or divided into two persons, but one and the same Son, and only begotten, God, the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ, as the prophets from the beginning [have declared] concerning him, and the Lord Jesus Christ himself has taught us, and the Creed of the holy Fathers has been handed down to us.”

~ English translation taken from Philip Schaff, *Creeds of Christendom* 2:62-63.

The Incarnation

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**Remaining what he was (God),
he became what he was not (man).**

“You’re what!?!?”

Matthew 1:18b

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Joseph was a “righteous” man

Matthew 1:19

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“The Holy Spirit did what!?!?”

Matthew 1:20

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

The Mystery and Beauty of the Incarnation

But in fact the real difficulty, the supreme mystery with which the gospel confronts us ...lies not in the Good Friday messages of atonement, nor in the Easter message of resurrection, but in the Christmas message of Incarnation. The really staggering Christian claim is that Jesus of Nazareth was God made man — that the second person of the Godhead became the 'second man' (1 Cor. 15:47), determining human destiny, the second representative head of the race, and that He took humanity without loss of deity, so that Jesus of Nazareth was as truly and fully divine as He was human. Here are two mysteries for the price of one — the plurality of persons within the unity of God, and the union of Godhead and manhood in the person of Jesus.

The Mystery and Beauty of the Incarnation

It is here, in the thing that happened at the first Christmas, that the profoundest and most unfathomable depths of the Christian revelation lie. 'The Word was made flesh' (John 1:14); God became man; the divine Son became a Jew; the Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, unable to do more than lie and stare and wriggle and make noises, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. And there was no illusion or deception in this: the babyhood of the God

was a reality. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as is this truth of the incarnation."

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God* (Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1993 edition), p. 57.



The name “Jesus”

Matthew 1:21

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

Born to Save

Luke 2:8-11

8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them,

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”

“The Scripture said what!?!?”

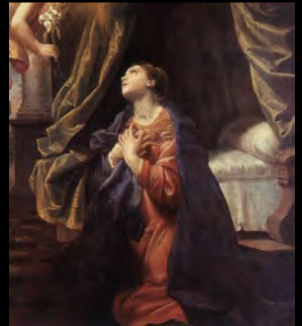
Matthew 1:22-23

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“Everyone admits that the Bible represents Jesus as having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. The only question is whether in making that representation the Bible is true or false.”



J. Gresham Machen
The Virgin Birth of Christ



Joseph was a “righteous” man

Matthew 1:24-25

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“Herod is trying to do what!?!?”

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The importance of the Incarnation of Jesus from the perspective of Joseph

1. Take Mary home as your wife
2. Name the boy "Jesus"
3. Take your family to Egypt

The importance of the Incarnation of Jesus from the perspective of Joseph

1. Trust an angel of the Lord more than your own judgment

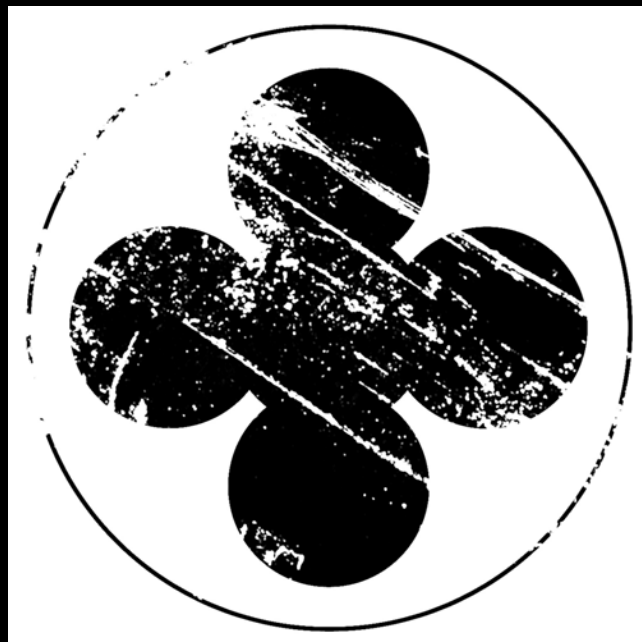
The importance of the Incarnation of Jesus from the perspective of Joseph

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2. Trust that (t)his baby was conceived of the Holy Spirit

The importance of the Incarnation of Jesus from the perspective of Joseph

1. Trust an angel of the Lord more than your own judgment
2. Trust that (t)his baby was conceived of the Holy Spirit
3. Trust Jesus will save his people – and himself! –
from their sins

The importance of the Incarnation of Jesus for us at Hope



Gospel Application

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