

Standing Strong In The Storms of Life The Unbelievable Life of a Father Matthew 1:18-25; 2:13-15, 19-23

Luke 2:48-52

48. When they saw Him, they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have anxiously been looking for You."

49. And He said to them, "Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father's house?"

50. But they did not understand the statement which He had made to them.

51. And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

52. And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

1. An Unbelievable Announcement

Matthew 1:18-25

18. 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.

19. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly.

20. But 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.

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

22. Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord to the prophet:

23. "Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a child, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which translated means "God with us."

24. And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife.

25. but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and He called His name Jesus.

A. Joseph was a committed man - betrothed to Mary

B. Joseph was a committed man - righteous man

C. Joseph was a committed man - loyal to the message given to him

<u>Isaiah 7:14</u>

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a Son, and she will call his name Immanuel.

Luke 1:30-31

30. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God.

31. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus."

2. An Unbelievable Alert

Matthew 2:13-15

13. Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him.

14. So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother while it was still night, and left for Egypt.

15. He remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my Son."

A. Joseph was an obedient man - he responded immediately

B. Joseph was an obedient man - he remained in Egypt

C. Joseph was an obedient man - he again was used to fulfill a prophecy

<u>Hosea 11:1</u>

When Israel was a youth I loved Him, and out of Egypt I called My son.

3. An Unbelievable Arrival

Matthew 1:19-22

19. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly.

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

22. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there.

A. Joseph was a prepared man - ready to move

B. Joseph was a prepared man - studying the Scriptures

C. Joseph was a prepared man - looking for danger

Jeremiah 31:15

Thus says the Lord, "A voice is heard in Ramah, Lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; She refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more."

4. An Unbelievable Alternative

A. Joseph was a trusted man - once again God warns him

B. Joseph was a trusted man - once again God uses him in a matter of prophecy

C. Joseph was a trusted man - God used Him to raise His Son



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