

God and the Ancients II: *Joseph of Arimathea*

July 20, 2025

Luke 23:44-56

Joseph of Arimathea

Arimathea was located about 5 miles north of Jerusalem, somewhere in the hill country of Ephraim

Joseph was a core member of the *Sanhedrin*, the “supreme court” of ancient Israel

The Problem: All Hell Broke Loose

- Luke 23:44-49

And the watching world was stunned into silence . . .

- Luke 23:50-51a

All Hell broke loose — and Joseph had a decision to make . . .

Resolution #1: He Looked Up

- Luke 23:50-51

One of our enemies favorite tactics is to keep our heads in our butts! Our task is to remember that no matter what’s hitting the fan, *Jesus reigns sovereign!*

- 2 Corinthians 4:8-9;16-18

Resolution #2: He Moved Forward

- Luke 23:50-56

Joseph *went to* Pilate

Joseph *gave up* his own tomb

- Isaiah 53:9

The world needs less politicians attempting to 'maintain the peace' and more leaders who are boldly willing to simply do what's right!

Challenge *FOR* Every Alaskan:

1. Today, have a family conversation that intentionally 'looks up'

Ask your spouse: Where could we have greater faith?

Ask your kids: Where do you see us letting fear run our family?

Ask yourself: Where am I so consumed by the moment that I may be missing the ultimate?

2. Read Proverbs 11:3-4 everyday this week, and just do the next right thing

"The integrity of the gospel guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them. Riches do not profit in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death."

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