



Matthew 1:18-25

ADVENT

SEASON *of* HOPE









“Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.”

(Matthew 1:19)



“Because Joseph her **husband** was a **righteous man** and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to **divorce her quietly.**”

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mir... tly...”

“Tsadiq”

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“Tsadiq”

*Righteous according to
the strict interpretation
of the Torah*

“She should be brought to the door of her father’s house and there the men of the town shall stone her to death.”

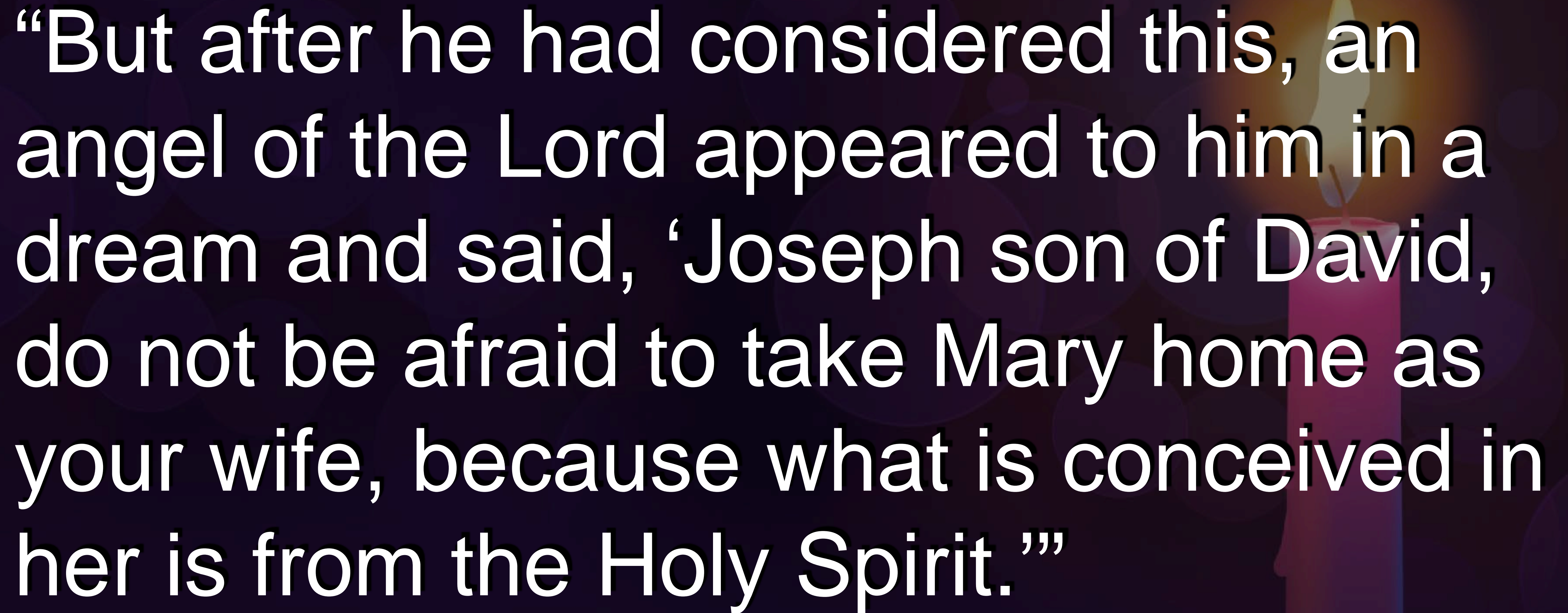
(Deuteronomy 22:21)



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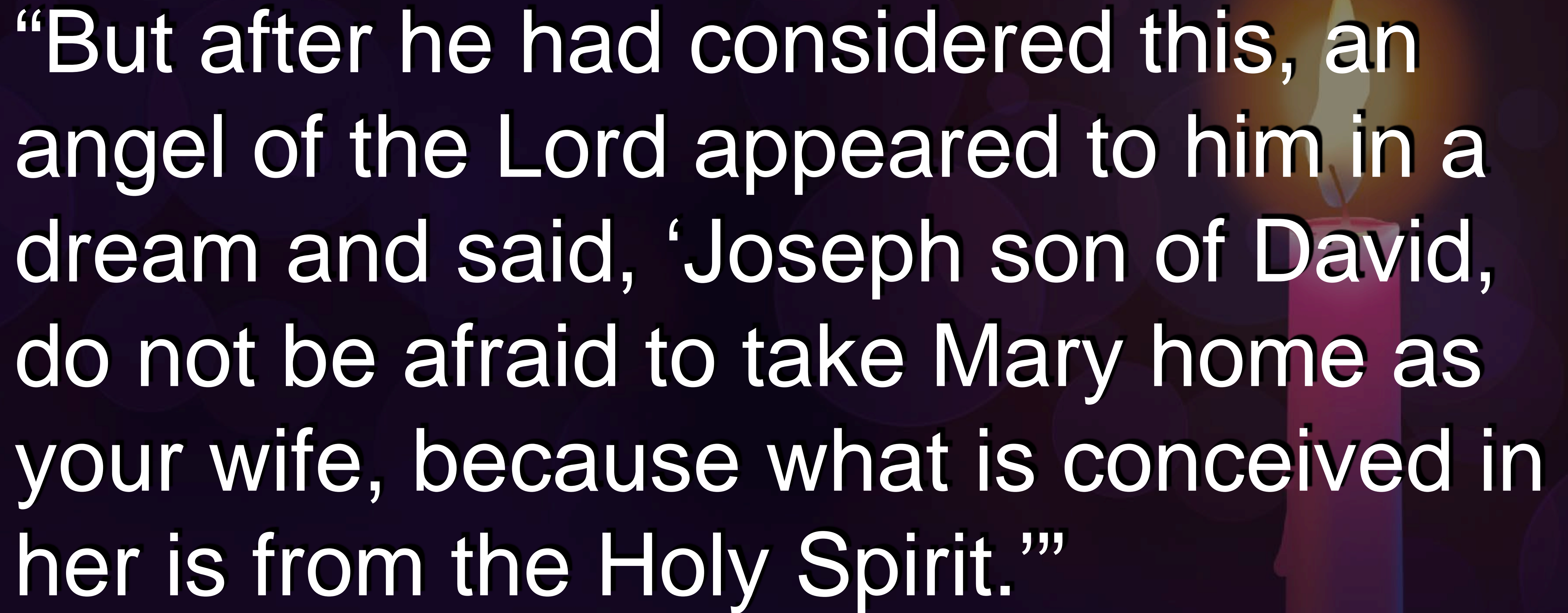
“Tsadiq”

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“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.’”

(Matthew 1:20)



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“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.”

(Matthew 1:21)



Four Traits of a Consistent God-Follower



1. DO IT NOW



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

(Matthew 1:24)



**“I will hasten and not delay to obey
your commands.”** *(Psalm 119:60)*



“This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome.” *(1 John 5:3)*



2. KEEP ON TRUSTING



“But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.” *(Matthew 1:25)*



3. STAY FLEXIBLE



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

(Matthew 2:13)



“‘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.’”

(Matthew 2:13b)



“So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod.” *(Matthew 2:14, 15a)*





4. TAKE A RISK




**“After Herod died, an angel of the
Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph
in Egypt and said...”**

(Matthew 2:19)



**“Get up, take the child and his mother
and go to the land of Israel, for those
who were trying to take the child’s life
are dead.”** *(Matthew 2:20)*



1. DO IT NOW


2. KEEP ON TRUSTING

3. STAY FLEXIBLE

4. TAKE A RISK

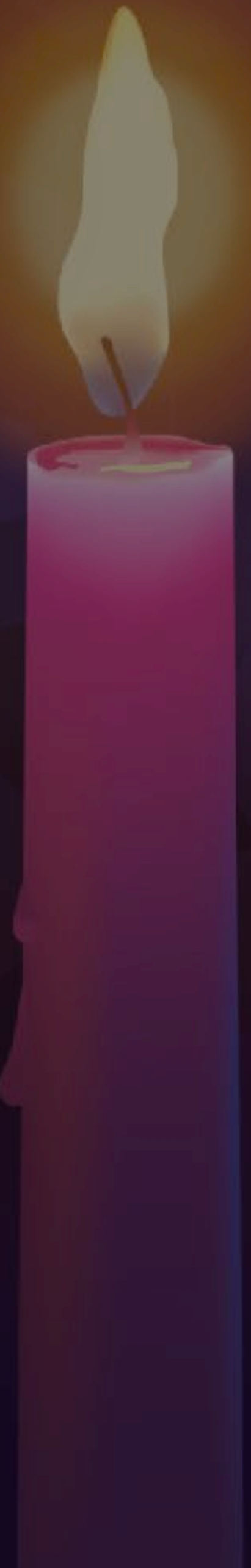


“So then, anyone who **hears** these words of mine and **obeys** them is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” *(Matthew 7:24)*



BOTTOM LINE:

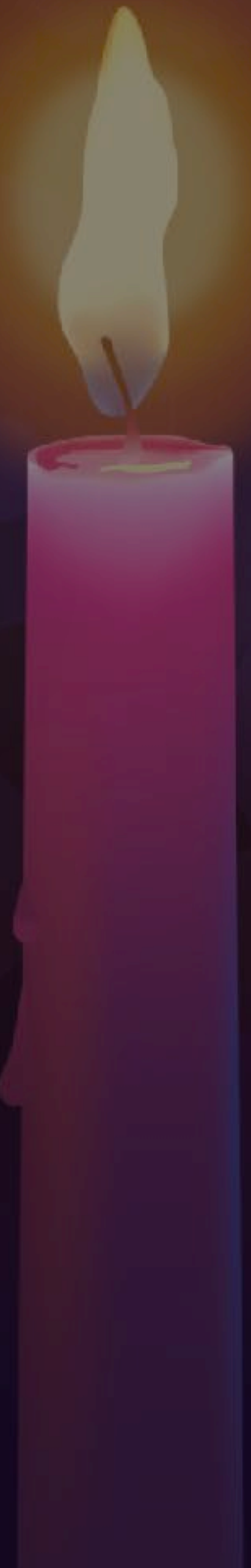
I may not know
EVERYTHING,
But I can do the
NEXT THING



The angels'
message is never
“BEHAVE”



The angels'
message is never
“**BEHAVE**”
It's “**BELIEVE!**”







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