

INTRO: Retelling a Story from certain perspectives, angles, audience and intent.

Watching FILM: Offensive Linemen. Running Back. Defense (Linebackers/Safeties).

> **Touchdown Run.** Quarterback. Offensive Linemen. Running Back. Receivers (route/block). Defensive Line. D.End. Linebacker shift. Safety blitz. Who am I communicating to? Why? Where was I? What do I know? What was my own experience that gives me a unique observation. Background. Culture.

Matthew: writing primarily to a Jewish Audience as a cultural Jew to convince them that Jesus is Christ.

Luke: writing primarily to a Gentile/Mixed/Early Church audience to give a full account of Jesus.

Mark: writing as an early account. Smaller. Short. To the point. For early dissemination. Peter's friend.

John: writing against early gnosticism? Unloving. Logic. Proof. God. Life and Light.

Thesis: *Jesus is the Promised Savior of His People.*

I. Joseph's Character

- A. **Just Man.** Unwilling to put her to shame. **Integrity. Man of Respect.**
- B. Divorce her quietly.
- C. Thought it was necessary. Thought she was in sin. Had betrayed him.
- D. Hurt. Sad. Angry? Anxiety and Fear. Shock. Embarrassed.
- E. Didn't react in anger, revenge, defense, payback, etc. (**Talking crap about wife**).

ILLUSTRATION: Implications for Mary would've been rough. Public Shame, Disgrace, Isolation, Laughing Stock, Disowned by parents, unwed, servant, prostitution, no future, provisions, legally adulthood, crime, infidelity if betrothed, child labeled and ostracized.

DOWNTON ABBEY. 1920's England. Polluted. Scandal. Tarnished. Cultural disgust. **Mercy.**

APPLICATION: *When we must do a hard thing, do it with all tenderness, kindness and compassion.*

II. Joseph's Credentials

- A. **Son of David.** Of the royal bloodline. And yet he's a carpenter. Poor.

ILLUSTRATION: Aragorn from Lord of Rings. Unseemly. But of royal blood. Heir.

APPLICATION: Don't forget who you are; whose you are. Who you belong to. **Imago Dei.** God's son.

III. Joseph's Christ

- A. A Son. Jesus. "God Saves." And we still call Him Jesus.
- B. Call His Name Jesus. He will save HIS PEOPLE.
- C. Virgin shall conceive (Hyperbole? Symbolic?). Immanuel, "God With Us."
- D. He's the Savior of Joseph and all who believe.

ILLUSTRATION: Essentials of the Faith. J. Gresham Machen. Fully God. Fully Man. Perfect.

APPLICATION: Say His Name. Jesus is His Name. God talk. Christ. Say Jesus. Who He is.

IV. Joseph's Child

- A. Adopted Child. Foster-Father.
- B. Jesus would be labeled as a bastard child. Illegitimate. **John 8:41, 48. "Son of Mary."**

ILLUSTRATION: Tertullian. 2nd Century. Rumor/Slander about Jesus's bio-dad. Sperm Donor.

- C. Joseph is there when Jesus is 12yrs old in temple.
- D. Learns his dad's trade. He's about the Father's work. Earthly and Kingdom.

APPLICATION: Our Father adopts and receives us as his own children unashamedly too.