

Sermon Notes for Christmas Eve, December 24, 2005

“Joseph the Just – Step Father of Jesus Christ” – Matthew 1:16-25

I. Joseph Discovering – Matthew 1:16-19

- **His Royalty** – “The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” Matthew 1:1 “And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations; and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations.” Matthew 1:16-17
- **His Relationship** – “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph” Matthew 1:18a
- **His Remorse** – “Before they came together, she was found with child.” Matthew 1:18b-19
- **His Righteousness** – “The Joseph her husband, being a **just** man, not willing to make her a public example was minded to put her away privately.” Matthew 1:19a

II. Joseph Dreaming – Matthew 1:20-21

- The **Vision** of the Angel – “But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him **in a dream**, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife” Matthew 1:20a
- The **Vindication** of Mary – “For that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.” Matthew 1:20b
- The **Visitation** by God – “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21 “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people.” Luke 1:68

III. Joseph Deciding – Matthew 1:22-25

- The **Scriptures** – “Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.” Matthew 1:22-23
- His **Stewardship** – “Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife.” Matthew 1:24
- His **Son** – “And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.” Matthew 1:25

Illustration: “God will take care of you” – Christmas Eve