

I. Introduction.

II. Joseph is a true son of David.

- A. God, in His wisdom, chose a young woman (Mary) who was already betrothed. v. 18a
- B. God chose Joseph, the Son of David, to be Jesus' legal father. v. 20a, 1-17
 - 1. David's house has been reduced to a stump. Is. 11:1ff Jer. 23:5-6 33:14ff
 - 2. Why is Joseph's genealogy important, since he is not the biological father? v. 16
Joseph is the legal father of Jesus Who thus has legal claim to the throne of Israel.
 - 3. Jesus is the Son of David and the Son of Abraham, in fulfillment of God's covenant promises. 1:1 Ge. 12:2-3 Ga. 3:16 John 8:56,58 II Sa. 7:12-16 Ps. 89:3,29 Ro. 1:3 Rev. 22:16 Lu. 1:32 Mt. 12:23 15:22 20:30-31 21:9,15 22:41-46 Acts 2:54
 - 4. God keeps His promises in spite of human sin and failure. Isa. 11:1ff Ro. 15:12
- C. Joseph is a worthy son of David. v. 18-20
 - 1. Joseph faces a great crisis when he learns his fiancée' is pregnant. v. 18b
 - 2. He is a righteous (just) man. v. 19a
 - 3. He is also a merciful man. v. 19b Ge. 38:24 Deut. 22:23-24 Mt. 5:32 I Pe. 4:9
 - 4. He is a careful man. v. 20a Pr. 19:2 29:20 Js. 1:19-20
- D. Joseph is a believing man. v. 20-25
 - 1. An angel appears to Joseph in a dream -- a shocking revelation is followed by glorious illumination. v. 20 Joel 2:28-32
 - 2. The angel tells Joseph not to be afraid (of what?). v. 20b Luke 1:13,30 2:9
 - 3. Joseph receives the word from the angel without question. v. 20, 24a
 - 4. Joseph acts upon his faith. v. 24b
 - 5. Joseph gives us powerful testimony to the virgin conception and birth.

III. Jesus is the true Son of David.

- A. He is the Son of God, conceived and born of a virgin. v. 20, 23a Isa. 7:14 Gen. 3:15
 - 1. The miraculous conception of Jesus was prophesied. Isa. 7:14 Gen. 3:15 Ga. 4:4
 - 2. Why does the virgin conception matter?
 - 3. If Jesus is not born of a virgin, the Bible is a lie and a myth.
 - 4. If He is not the virgin-born son of God, then He is no different than we are; therefore, He could not be our Savior. Ro. 5:12 II Co. 5:21 Heb. 4:15
- B. He is Jesus, the Savior of His people. v. 21 18:11 Jo. 3:16-17 Jer. 31:31-34 Ps. 130:8
 - 1. Mary and Joseph didn't have to worry about coming up with a name.
 - 2. Nor did they have to concern themselves with determining His life's work.
 - 3. He is not the revolutionary political leader the Jews sought. John 1:11
 - 4. People today still misunderstand Jesus' mission.
 - 5. He has come to save His people from sin. Lu. 1:47,69 John 1:29 I Pe. 3:18 1:18ff
- C. He is Immanuel, God with us. v. 22-23 Isa. 7:14
 - 1. He is *God*: His Eternal Deity. Jo. 1:1f 8:58 20:28 Is. 9:6 Co. 2:9 Ro. 9:5 I Ti. 3:16
 - 2. He is *with us*: truly and fully human, the son of Mary. Ro. 8:3 Jo. 1:13 He. 2:14ff
 - 3. God dwells with His people. Jo. 1:14-18 Ez. 48:35 Is. 60:18ff Mt. 28:20 Re. 21:23
 - 4. There is no-one else like Him.

IV. Conclusion: You are in Joseph's place today. Will you receive Jesus into your life?

Discussion questions for family worship.

- 1. Why is the genealogy in Matthew 1 important?**
- 2. Why did God choose Joseph to be Jesus' earthly guardian?**
- 3. What positive aspects of Joseph's character are revealed?**
- 4. How is Joseph's angelic visitation different from that received by Zechariah, Mary and the shepherds?**
- 5. How do the angel's words, "do not be afraid", apply differently to Joseph than to the others to whom the angel appeared?**
- 6. How does Joseph show himself to be a man of faith?**
- 7. What is the significance of the names ascribed to our Savior in this passage?**
- 8. Why was the virgin conception necessary?**
- 9. Is it possible for a true Christian to deny the virgin birth (conception)?**
- 10. In what way are we in the same position as Joseph?**