

A painting depicting Joseph, a man with a beard and curly hair, holding the infant Jesus. Joseph is shown in profile, looking towards the child with a gentle smile. The child is wrapped in a red cloth and is also looking towards Joseph. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a landscape. The text is overlaid on the lower part of the image.

**Fatherhood – The Example of Joseph**  
**Matthew 1 and 2, Luke 2**

# God – Father of the Nation of Israel

- **Deuteronomy 32:6** - Do you thus repay the Lord,  
you foolish and senseless people?  
Is not he your father, who created you,  
who made you and established you?

# Abba - Father

- **Mark 14:36** - *And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”*

# The Fatherhood of God

- **1 Corinthians 8:6** - <sup>6</sup> yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.
- **Romans 1:7** - <sup>7</sup> To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

# Fatherhood – The Example of Joseph

1. Conscience
2. Character
3. Action
4. Duty

# Walking in Integrity

- **Proverbs 20:7** - The righteous who walks in his integrity—blessed are his children after him!

# Conscience of Joseph

- **Matthew 1:19-20** - <sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

# Conscience – Compassion Over Anger

- **Proverbs 15:18** - A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger quiets contention.
- **1 Timothy 1:5** - <sup>5</sup> But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart, *from* a good conscience, and *from* a sincere faith. (NASB)



# Character of Joseph

- **Matthew 1:20-21** - <sup>20</sup> But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”
- **Matthew 1:24-25** - <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup> but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

# Husbands – Love Your Wives

- **Ephesians 5:25** - <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,
- **Ephesians 5:28-30** - <sup>28</sup> In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, <sup>30</sup> because we are members of his body.

# The Example of Joseph – Devotion to His Wife

- **Luke 2:4-7** - <sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup> to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

# Honor Your Marriage

- **Hebrews 13:4** - <sup>4</sup> Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

# Joseph – A Man of Action

- **Matthew 2:13-15** - <sup>13</sup> Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup> And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup> and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

# Consequences of Laziness

- **Ecclesiastes 10:18** - Through laziness, the rafters sag; because of idle hands, the house leaks.

# Joseph Was a Man of Duty

- **Luke 2:22** - <sup>22</sup> And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

# Jesus Became Strong and Filled With Wisdom

- **Luke 2:39-40** - <sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.



# My Father's House

- **Luke 2:46-47** - <sup>46</sup> After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.
- **Luke 2:49** - <sup>49</sup> And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?”

If my child grows up  
and graduates college,  
has a successful career  
and comfortable  
lifestyle, but never came  
to know Jesus, then all  
my efforts were in vain.