

02/24/2024

“Characteristics of a Godly Man”

Matthew 1:18-25

1. INDUSTRIOUS:

What did Joseph do for a living? We're told he was a carpenter (**Mark 6:3**), however the Greek work translated “carpenter” [Tekton] can accurately be translated “craftsman”. He likely worked as a stone mason as well. He worked hard to make a living and support his family.

(2 Thessalonians 3:10-12)

2. KNOWLEDGEABLE OF GOD'S WORD:

Joseph knew God's word and how it ought to be applied to life.

(Psalm 119:11)

3. JUST:

Joseph, being betrothed (engaged) to Mary and having found her pregnant to another out of wedlock, had the right under the Law to A) divorce her B) put her to public shame C) possibly have her stoned to death!

(James 2:13)

4. SELF-CONTROL:

Joseph was unwilling to act upon the feelings any man would have in his situation, having discovered that the love of his life had cheated on him and was pregnant to another.

(Titus 2:11-14)

5. RESOLUTE:

Joseph, because of his love for Mary, did not want to put her to public shame or death.

However, he could not marry her and remain faithful to God's Law, thus he was steadfast in his decision to divorce her quietly.

(1 Corinthians 15:58) ** Notice that only when Joseph had decided on a course of action and was MOVING did the Lord speak and instruct him. We have to know God's word and start moving accordingly and THEN as we are moving GOD WILL DIRECT OUR PATH! [similar to the Israelites when they had to cross the Red Sea and the Jordan River]

6. FAITH:

Joseph took Mary as his wife. His actions are powered and directed by his TRUST in God.
[He SAT in God's chair]

(James 2:18)

7. ACKNOWLEDGEMNT OF GOD'S HOLINESS:

Joseph did not have sex with Mary until after she gave birth to Jesus so as to not "muddy the waters" of paternity. He acknowledged that God was Jesus' Father.

(Isaiah 6:1-7)

8. ACTION:

He called his name Jesus. This sounds like the prophetic mandates of the Old Testament like in **Hosea 1:1-3**. "The word of the LORD came... So he arose and went." It sounds like those mandates because it WAS one of the mandates. This is occurring under the Old Covenant! John the Baptizer was the last human prophet of the Old Covenant. The commands of God REQUIRE action on the part of God's people!

(John 14:15)