

Sermon Notes

Silent Night - Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

A Complicated Engagement - Matthew 1:18-19 - ¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

Joseph was a tekton which is the Greek word for carpenter or stone mason.

The Law - Deuteronomy 22:21 - ²¹ They shall bring the young woman out to the entrance of her father's house and the men of her town shall stone her to death, because she committed a disgraceful act in Israel.

Joseph's Mercy - Matthew 18:19 - ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

Joseph's Dream - Matthew 1:20-21 - ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, **an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream** and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him **Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.**"

Jesus or Yeshua, means, God helps, God saves, or God delivers.

Emmanuel - Matthew 1:22-23 - ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him **Emmanuel,**" which means, "**God is with us.**"

Joseph's Obedience - Matthew 1:24-25 - ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, **he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him;** he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Escape to Egypt - Matthew 2:13-15

¹³ Now after the wise men had left, an angel of **the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream** and said, "Get up, 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." ¹⁴ **Then Joseph got up, took**

the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

Christmas in Bethlehem - Matthew 2:16-17 ¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.

The Return from Egypt - Matthew 2:19-23 ¹⁹ When Herod died, **an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph** in Egypt and said, ²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹ **Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.** ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And **after being warned in a dream,** he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

Things I would like to remember from today's sermon: _____

