

***Sermon Title:* THE APPEARANCE TO JOSEPH**

**Date:** December 15, 2024 - Matthew 1:18-25

Central Idea: God uses faithful and obedient people to carry out His plans. Are you faithful and obedient?

Introduction: Joseph was a “righteous man,” God-fearing and courageous, and devoted to Mary. The situation created both pain and a problem for Joseph, and he turned aside to think it out in the presence of the Lord. Is that what you do with your problems and pains?

I. The Man, vv. 18-20

1. House and lineage of David.
2. Evidently a poor man.
3. Engaged to Mary.
4. His world comes crashing down.
5. Was a righteous man.

II. The Message, vv. 20-21

1. “He considered these things.”
2. God’s message.
3. Personal message.
4. “Don’t be afraid.”
5. “Conceived of the Holy Spirit.”

III. The Miracle, vv. 21-25

1. “The Lord saves.”
2. Fulfilling prophecy.
3. Virgin Birth.

Conclusion: Some have called Joseph the forgotten man of Christmas. The Bible does not record any words he ever spoke. One commentator called him “Joseph the silent.” He is usually relegated to the role of an extra in the Christmas story. That should not be! Though Joseph was remarkably simple, he was simply remarkable! Joseph demonstrates to us all the results of faithful obedience to the Word of God.