

*For unto us a Child is born,  
Unto us a Son is given;  
And the government will be upon His shoulder.  
And His name will be called  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father,  
Prince of Peace.*

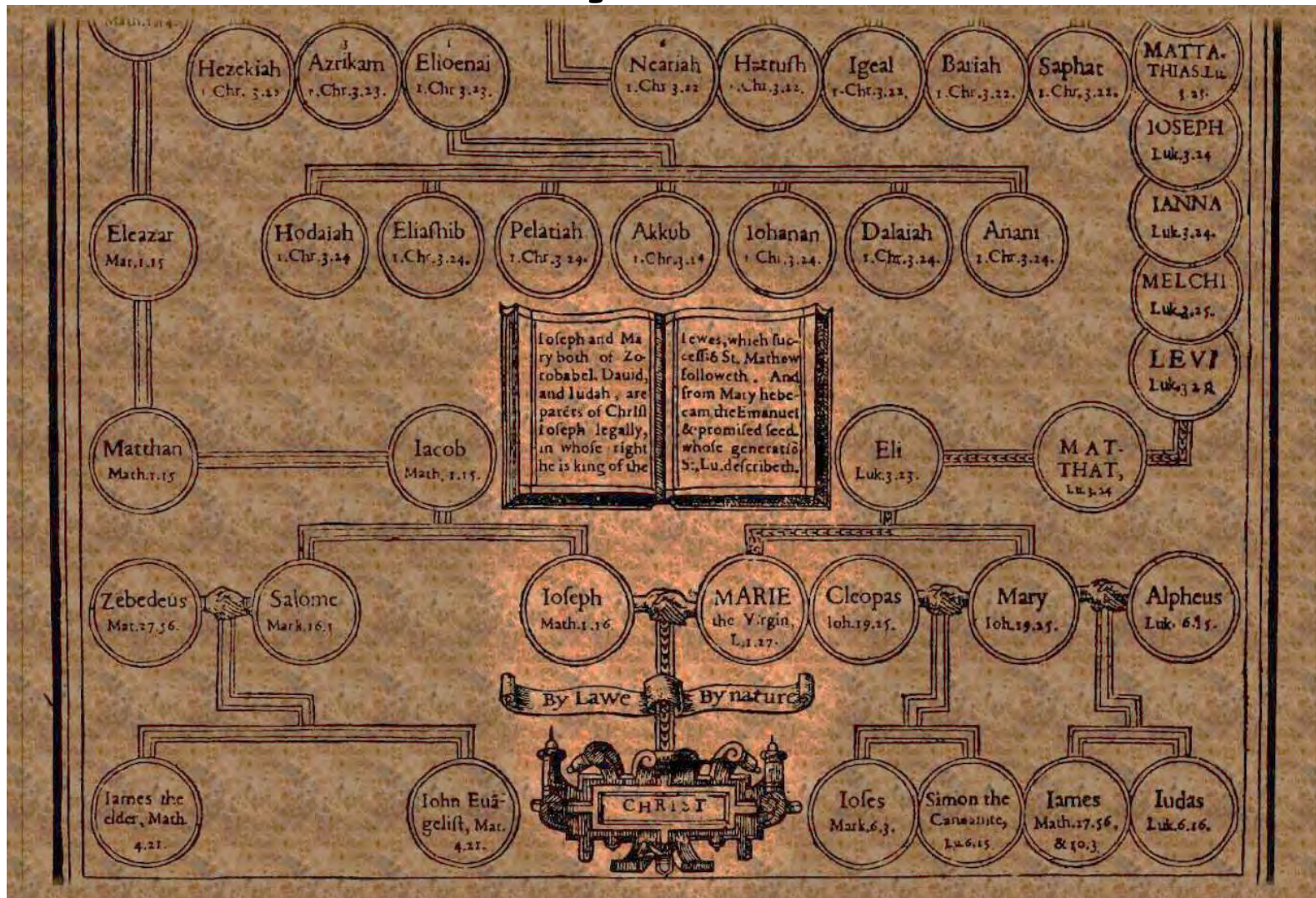


A dramatic landscape at sunset or sunrise, with a bright star in the upper right corner. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and black. In the foreground, the silhouettes of a person on a horse and another person walking are visible against the bright horizon. The text 'Lessons from the Nativity' is centered in the upper half of the image.

# Lessons from the Nativity

Matthew 1

# The Family Tree of Jesus



Matthew 1:1-17

# Tamar

Genesis 38



**Played a harlot to trick her father in law,  
Judah, into impregnating her.  
She was a single mom.**

# Rahab

Joshua 2



**Was the prostitute in Jericho.  
Married Salmon**

# Ruth

Ruth 2-4



**Was from a tribe whose patriarch was from an  
relationship of incest.**

**Married Boaz**

# Bathsheba

2 Samuel 12



**Was involved in sexual sin and married  
David King of Israel**

Tamar



Rahab



Ruth



Bathsheba



## Lesson

Jesus who came to save sinners came through this line. Some form of immorality in line of Jesus Christ

We have no choice of our family, Jesus came through a line that had past of shameful events.

Some are proud that they have come from a dignified family line.

Jesus came through this line because came to save sinners came to the least and lowest. Jesus humbled himself to the lowest place and said follow me. We are not to think of what makes us superior to others – not a follower of Jesus Christ.





## The Righteousness of Joseph Matthew 1:18-24

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. <sup>20</sup> But while he thought about these things...



## The Righteousness of Joseph Matthew 1:18-24

### Righteousness of Joseph

Thought Mary had been immoral

Did not want to disgrace her

Example of New Testament Righteousness – not disgrace others even if they had sinned.



## The Righteousness of Joseph Matthew 1:18-24

**Easy to misunderstand** – Mary had not sinned but this was the work of the Holy Spirit. He did not spread evil. Often our problem is we want to show ourselves superior by putting down others.

Put her away secretly – we need to transform attitudes

Often find that our suspicions are unfounded and our conclusions are wrong. May think we are right but in fact can be wrong.



## The Righteousness of Joseph Matthew 1:18-24

<sup>20</sup> But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”



Vs. 20 Waited – did not act impulsively. Thought about the matter

Set aside his suspiciousness and reason and followed what God said.

God sent angel to speak to him.



## The Righteousness of Joseph Matthew 1:18-24

<sup>22</sup> So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: <sup>23</sup> “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”

<sup>24</sup> Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, <sup>25</sup> and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.



Isaiah 7 Immanuel

God with us – in all the areas of our lives

The Decisions of life

The Difficulties of life

The Dimensions of life

The Disturbances of life



# Holy Spirit's Working

## Matthew 1:18

Working of the Holy Spirit in us can be of a nature that no one can understand. The act did not bring popularity, but misunderstanding and reproach.

When the Holy Spirit came upon people in the OT it was with external power and most of the time brought them honor. In NT the Holy Spirit comes upon people with internal power.

The first person in the Gospel of Matthew to have the Holy Spirit come upon them was Mary who gave her body a living sacrifice that Jesus Christ might be born in her.

Today the Lord asks us to give our body as a living sacrifice that the Holy Spirit might work in us.





# Holy Spirit's Working

## Matthew 1:18

By revelation the Holy Spirit helped with the matters that needed to be understood by the ones who loved her.

Joseph

Elizabeth

Those who given revelation will understand other who do not have revelation will not understand.

# First Promise of The New Testament

**Matthew 1:21**

*And she will bring forth a Son,  
and you shall call His name  
JESUS,  
for He will save His people  
from their sins.*



# First Promise of The New Testament

**Matthew 1:21**

*Notice it does not say Jesus would just  
save His people from hell.*

*He would save His people from sin.*

*Salvation from sin is more than  
Forgiveness of sin.*



# First Promise of The New Testament

**Matthew 1:21**

*Save us from our sins*

*What Sins?*





## The Righteousness of Joseph Matthew 1:18-24

<sup>24</sup> Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, <sup>25</sup> and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

Joseph – the obedience of faith not reason.

Took wife – major life time decision based on the revelation of the Word of God.