

## Sons of God, Part 4

December 26, 2021

Sunset Avenue Church of God; 11:00 AM

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** Do you remember when you were rescued and made a Son of God?

### REVIEW:

#### 1. Remarkable Son

John 3:16 *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* [KJV]

#### 2. Revealing of Sons

Romans 8:18-19 *"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God."* [ESV]

#### 3. Rights of Sons of God

Galatians 4:7 *"So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God."* [ESV]

### TODAY: 4. Rescued Sons / Matthew 1:18-23

There are many heroes in the Bible. The Christmas story has several. When we look at the story of Christmas it all seems to fit nicely into a beautiful Nativity scene, but when we take a closer look, we see God stepping into the brokenness of humanity.

What a difficult place Joseph is in...I know we view it after all the story is told but how would you like to live in a time where young ladies who get pregnant before marriage are supposed to be brought to their father's doorsteps and stoned to death?

The story of Christmas is still the story of God stepping into the brokenness of humanity. It is a story of:

#### a. The Holy Spirit at Work

vs. 20 *"But while he thought on these things, behold the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost."*

The Christmas Story is a Holy work. Christmas is considered a Holy Day!

This Holy Day is something to think about...Joseph, as a just man was also a thinking man... we need people to think when we are troubled! As he thought about it, he heard, what Mary is carrying is pure, unspotted by sin and the world.

Joseph don't be afraid of this that is holy.

- **Don't hesitate; don't be apprehensive;** don't worry that you will be disgraced and made unfit.

So too today; never forget that Christmas is about the Holy coming to the unworthy.

**b. THE SON has Come**

vs. 21a *“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS”*

This is not just any son, but the ONE they would call Jesus. THE Greatest of All Time

HE is Messiah... HE is that which the prophet spoke about. A virgin shall bring forth a son and they shall call HIM Emmanuel, that is God with us.

Let's remind ourselves about this Son: Jesus is the Source of Creation, Savior of the World, Shepherd of the Church, Sovereign of the Universe and Son of God

**c. HIM Saving from Sins**

vs. 21c *“...for he shall save his people from their sins.”*

The word save is the word to focus on...most focus on the word sin, but I would like on this Holy Weekend to remind you of why the Son of God came...TO SAVE!

The word save means to rescue from danger or destruction; to keep safe and sound; to save one a suffering one from perishing, injury or peril

That's what this Holy Day of Christmas is about! RESCUE!

We all love a rescue story...

A group of men were on a boat and a storm comes up; the ship tossed by the waves and the winds were so contrary that they men on the boat thought they were finished. But they saw someone walking on the troubled seas...out of fear they cry out, but they hear a voice respond. Be of good cheer, Fear not it is I; be not afraid!

Yes, Christmas is a time to be of good cheer! For the greatest rescue of all time was when God sent HIS Son to a world in danger and headed for destruction.

The Greatest Rescue of all Time was when Jesus came to save suffering humanity from perishing.

Christmas is about the Son of God walking on the troubled seas of Life to rescue sinking dying men

Why the song writer could put pen to paper and say *“I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore, very deeply stained within, sinking to rise no more; but the Master of the Sea, heard my despairing cry, from the waters lifted me now safe am I. LOVER LIFTED ME...”*