

the SON OF JOSEPH

Pg 1

“The following day Jesus went forth into Galilee, and found Philip, and said unto him, 'Follow Me.' Now Philip was of Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. And Philip found Nathanael, and said unto him, 'We have found Him (God's promised Messiah), of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of Joseph.' And Nathanael said unto him, 'Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?' But Philip said unto him, 'Come and see.' And Jesus saw Nathanael coming to Him, and said of him, 'Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!' And Nathanael said unto Him, 'From where do You know me?' Jesus answered and said unto him, 'Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.' Then Nathanael answered and said unto Him, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.'” (John 1:43-45-49)

“Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also was baptized, and while He was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily form like a dove upon Him; and a voice came from heaven, which said, 'You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.' And Jesus Himself began (His ministry) at about thirty years of age, being, as was being thought, the Son of Joseph, the son of...” (LUKE 3:21-23)

Son: from the Greek word *huios* meaning: a son (by birth or adoption), a male descendent, who shares the same nature, and rights as his Father.

Joseph: from the Greek word *ioseph*: Joseph, a proper name; in context: the husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

After being called as a disciple by Jesus, Philip, no doubt with sincere excitement, went and told Nathanael the Good-news of the coming of the Messiah, the Christ, whom Philip identifies as Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of Joseph. Much later, when Luke wrote his Gospel account of Jesus, he also used the title the Son of Joseph, but with a preceding clarification: 'as was being thought,' meaning, as was being thought by people at the time. In fact Jesus was the adoptive son of Joseph, since Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary by the Holy Spirit of God.

To better understand the relationship between Joseph and Jesus, consider the following passages:

“And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.” (Luke 1:26-35)

“...; And to Jacob was born Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. ... Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was thinking to put her away (divorce) privately. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, you son of David, fear not to take unto you Mary your wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she shall bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus; for He shall save His people from their sins. Now all this was done, so that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord through the prophet, saying, 'Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel (Isaiah: 7:14), which being translated is, God-with-us. Then Joseph arising from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him, and took unto himself his wife: And he knew her not until she had brought forth her Firstborn Son: and he (Joseph) called His name Jesus.” (Matthew 1:16-25)

the SON OF JOSEPH

Pg 2

“And when they (the Maji) had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, 'Arise, and take the young child (Jesus) and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.' ... But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 'Arise, and take the young child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel; for they are dead who sought the young child's life.' And he arose, and took the young child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judea in the place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee; and he came and dwelt (again) in the city called Nazareth;...”(Matt. 2:13; 19-23)

“Now His parents (Joseph and Mary) went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when He (Jesus) was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and His mother knew not of it. But they, supposing Him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances. And when they did not find Him, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking Him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found Him in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all who heard Him (Jesus) were astonished at His understanding and answers. And when they (Joseph and Mary) saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said unto him, 'Son, why have you thus dealt with us? Behold, your father (Joseph) and I have been seeking you with consuming-sorrow.' And He said unto them, 'How is it that you were seeking Me? Did you not know that I had to be about My Father's business? And they did not understand this statement which He spoke unto them. And He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but His mother kept-safe all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. (Luke 2:41-52)

Jesus lived with Joseph, and His mother Mary, for thirty years. They knew and loved each other. From these above passages we Learn the following things concerning the relationship between Joseph and Jesus:

- Joseph was the husband of Mary, the mother of Jesus, who is called Christ.
- Joseph was thus chosen By God to be the adoptive father of Jesus.
- Joseph in obedience to God, named the Christ Child – Jesus!
- Joseph was of the House of David, and thus by right of inheritance so also is Jesus.
- Joseph is called the Son of David, and thus by right so also is Jesus.
- Joseph was a just and righteous man in matters related to Mary the mother of Jesus.
- Joseph was obedient to the warnings of God in his safe care of Jesus and Mary.
- Joseph and Mary raised Jesus to manhood in the city of Nazareth of Galilee.
- Joseph was a known carpenter, thus Jesus was also known as the Carpenter's Son.
- Joseph and Mary were faithful in raising Jesus in the ways of God.
- Joseph and Mary both suffered deep sorrow when they failed to keep tract of Jesus.
- Joseph and Mary did not understand certain statements made by Jesus.
- Joseph was a faithful servant in raising Jesus, the Beloved Son of God the Father!
- Jesus, the Son of the Most High God, lived in subjection to Joseph and Mary!

Eventually Jesus left Joseph and Mary, and His home town of Nazareth. Jesus began His ministry at about thirty years of age, at first within the regions of Galilee, a region that He was very familiar with through the carpenter trade of Joseph His father. Folks throughout the Galilee region, apparently knew the carpenter **Joseph**. Perhaps it is no surprise that some of these local folks were having difficulty with the teachings and miracles of Jesus, being the son of a local tradesman whom they knew – **Joseph** the carpenter! Could this Jesus really be the Messiah?

the SON OF JOSEPH

Pg 3

Consider this passage:

“And when He had come into His own region, He taught them in their synagogue, in such a way that they were astonished, and said, 'From where has this Man this wisdom, and these mighty works? Is this not the **Carpenter's (Joseph's) Son**? Is not His mother called Mary, and His brothers, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas; and His sisters, are they not all with us? From where then has this Man all these things?' and they were offended in Him. But Jesus said unto them, 'A prophet is not without honor, except in his own region, and in his own household.' And he did not do many mighty works there because of their unbelief.” (Matthew 13:54-55-58) (please also read Luke 4:16-22-29)

And again this passage:

Jesus said “For the bread of God is He (Jesus Himself) who comes down from heaven, and gives life unto the world.’ Then said they unto him, Lord, forevermore give us this bread. And Jesus said unto them, 'I am the Bread of life: he who comes to Me shall never hunger; and he who believes on Me shall never thirst. But I said unto you, that all of you also have seen Me, and believe not. All who the Father gives to Me shall come to Me; and he who comes to Me I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. And this is the Father's will who has sent Me: that of all which he has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son, and believes on Him, may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day. The Jews then murmured at Him, because He said, I am the Bread which came down from heaven. And they said, Is not this Jesus, the Son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? how is it then that He says, 'I came down from heaven?'” (John 6:35-42)

These local folks just could not conceive in their minds that the Christ, the promised Messiah of God, could actually be a man raised by a carpenter (Joseph) in Nazareth. But Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the God's promised Messiah; and as Nathanael said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, You are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.’” And Jesus was the Son of a mere carpenter: **Joseph of Nazareth!**

JESUS is ...

the Son of Joseph

**The Son of a righteous and Just carpenter in the city of Nazareth of Galilee;
in whom Jesus did live in respectful subjection for thirty years!**

But also, Jesus was the Son of God Most High...

**...God's promised Messiah, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write;
and He is the Bread of God, of Life, who came down from heaven,
and gives life unto the world, to us !!**

**Lord Jesus, Your father, Joseph was a man, a human soul,
a righteous and just man, a faithful father to You;
and a faithful servant to our Father in Heaven!**

**As You lived I subjection to Joseph and Mary,
help me to faithfully live my life in subjection to You and to the Father!
Always and always - Amen**