



Joseph Earthly Father to Jesus

Reader from
Matthew 1:18-25, 2:13-15
& Luke 2:1-7

By Felicia Mollohan

Now the birth of Je-sus
Christ was as fol-lows:
when His moth-er Mar-y
had been be-trothed to
Jo-seph, be-fore they
came to-geth-er she was
found to be with child by
the Hol-y Spir-it. And
Jo-seph her hus-band,
be-ing a right-eous man
and not want-ing to
dis-grace her, planned to
send her a-way
se-cret-ly.

2

But when he had
con-sid-ered this, be-hold,
an an-gel of the Lord
ap-peared to him in a
dream, say-ing, "Jo-seph,
son of Da-vid, do not be
a-fraid to take Mar-y as
your wife; for the Child
who has been
con-ceived in her is of the
Hol-y Spir-it.

3

She will bear a Son; and
you shall call His name
Je-sus, for He will save
His peo-ple from their
sins." Now all this took
place to ful-fill what was
spok-en by the Lord
through the pro-phet:

4 Be-hold, the vir-gin shall
be with child and shall
bear a Son, and they shall
call His name
Im-man-u-el," which
trans-lat-ed means, "God
with us." And Jo-seph
a-woke from his sleep
and did as the an-gel of
the Lord com-mand-ed
him, and took *Mar-y* as
his wife; and he called His
name Je-sus.

5 Now in those days a
de-cree went out from
Cae-sar Au-gus-tus, that
a cen-sus be tak-en of all
the in-hab-i-ted earth.
And ev-er-y-one was on
his way to reg-i-ster for
the cen-sus, each to his
own cit-y.

6 Jo-seph also went up from Gal-i-lee, from the cit-y of Naz-ar-eth, to Ju-de-a, to the cit-y of Da-vid which is called Beth-le-hem, be-cause he was of the house and fam-i-ly of Da-vid, in or-der to reg-is-ter a-long with Mar-y, who was en-gaged to him, and was with child.

7 While they were there, the days were com-plet-ed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her first-born son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a man-ger, be-cause there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸ Now when they had gone,
be-hold, an an-gel of the
Lord ap-peared to Jo-
seph in a dream and said,
"Get up! Take the Child
and His moth-er and flee
to E-gypt, and re-main
there un-til I tell you; for
Her-od is go-ing to search
for the Child to des-troy
Him."

So Jo-seph got up and ⁹
took the Child and His
moth-er while it was still
night, and left for E-gypt.
He re-mained there un-til
the death of Her-od. *This*
was to ful-fill what had
been spok-en by the Lord
through the pro-phet:
"Out of E-gypt I called
My Son."