



# Come & See What God Has Done

Joseph

Dec. 19

This morning, I woke up to a beautiful sunrise. The clouds were the kind of wispy that can be a harbinger of a change in weather. The light painted the clouds a lovely shade of orange. I found the sunrise to be one of those where the artistry of the Lord was on full display. It was refreshing to wake up to that display versus a gloomy, overcast winter's morning. But I can't remember anything remarkable from my dreams of the night before.

Joseph, Mary's future husband, faces a dilemma. Mary is found to be pregnant, and he is not the father of her child. In Jewish culture of the day, this is a violation of standards that would require Mary to be put to death. But Joseph cares deeply for Mary and searches for another way forward. An angel, in a dream, gives Joseph an answer as we read in Matthew 1:20-25, But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but he knew her not until she had given birth to a son, And he called his name Jesus.





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Two things jump out in this set of verses. Joseph has a dream of a quality that seems to be authentic. The angel's words spurred Joseph to take Mary as his wife.

The second aspect of this set of verses is the naming of Jesus. The angel instructed Joseph to name the child Immanuel. I did some digging and found this interesting bit of information. We read "Jesus" in our English Bibles, but what is Jesus' name in Hebrew? Jesus' name in Hebrew is Yehoshua (Yeh-HO-shoo-ah), which, over time, became contracted to the shorter Yeshua (Yeh-SHOO-ah). Yehoshua, and therefore Yeshua, also means "the Lord is salvation."

In the Greek New Covenant, the word used for Jesus is Iesous (ee-ay-SOOS). Iesous is not a translation of Jesus' name in Hebrew, but rather it is a transliteration. So, from Yehoshua/Yeshua – Jesus' name in Hebrew – we get the Greek transliteration Iesous, which was transliterated into Latin as Iesus and later became the English name Jesus. The consistent message of the entire Bible is God's plan of redemption in Yeshua, Jesus the Messiah.

Joseph experienced what the Lord can do in his life with the birth of the Messiah, as prophesied and reiterated by the angel.

Leaning on Jesus  
Forest Holmes

