

GOSPEL PEARLS

From time to time

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Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary; of her was born Jesus who is called Christ. This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do. (Matthew 1, 16.18-21.24)

Joseph deserved to be Mary's husband and the foster father of Jesus because, like Mary, in his heart, he loved God even before understanding His divine plans for him. Not all at once, but from time to time, the Lord told Joseph not only what he had to do to protect Mary and Jesus, but also what his duty towards them was. God might not appear to us in our dreams as he did to Joseph, but he communicates with us daily so we can make the best decisions. Do you seriously try to understand His words and put them into practice or do you liquidate Jesus by just saying a few daily prayers?