

**SERMON PREVIEW:** *What a responsibility! When Joseph became engaged to Mary, he did not expect this development...becoming The Guardian of Emmanuel, Stepfather of The Promised Messiah, Adoptive Parent of The Long-Announced King of kings!*

Matthew 1:18-23 tells us that "The Legal Custodian, The Godfather of Jesus handpicked by Jehovah Jireh was Joseph" was a carpenter!

The earthly stepfather commissioned by The Almighty Creator as the protector of Jesus was this humble working man from Bethlehem.

Like Mary who was favored above all other women, Joseph too was favored above all other men to parent God's Beloved Son.

This descendant of King David was elected by The Eternal One to be the sole foster father and official guardian with all rights and responsibilities under Jewish Law.

Joseph accepted the role of parenting, protecting and providing for THE WORD MADE FLESH, BABY JESUS, THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD!

Joseph a respected, righteous man, full of faith, and obedient to God's will, fulfilled the prophecies of The Old Testament, serving as a model God Father characterized by quiet strength, unquestioning obedience and unshakeable devotion.

Down through the ages, Joseph has become known as the "Guardian of The Redeemer", The Messiah's Papa, GOD FATHER OF JESUS CHRIST!

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