

Matthew 1:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

Analysis

Joseph's immediate obedience 'when he arose from sleep' demonstrates the faith that justifies. He believed the angel's message and acted accordingly, despite the social cost and personal humiliation he would face. This obedience required trusting God's word over appearances and public opinion, exemplifying the principle that true faith produces obedience (James 2:26).

Historical Context

Taking Mary as his wife protected her from accusations and provided Jesus with legal standing as Joseph's son, giving Him rights to David's throne. This occurred before the trip to Bethlehem for the Roman census.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What does Joseph's immediate obedience teach about the relationship between genuine faith and obedient action?
2. How can you demonstrate Joseph-like faith when God's calling contradicts human wisdom?

Interlinear Text

Διεγερθεὶς	δὲ	ὁ	Ἰωσήφ	ἀπὸ	τοῦ	ὕπνου	ἐποίησεν	ὥς
being raised	Then	G3588	Joseph	from	G3588	sleep	did	as
G1326	G1161		G2501	G575		G5258	G4160	G5613
προσέταξεν	αὐτοῦ	ὁ	ἄγγελος	Κυρίου,	καὶ	παρέλαβεν		
had bidden	him	G3588	the angel	of the Lord	and	took		
G4367	G846		G32	G2962	G2532	G3880		
τὴν	γυναῖκα	αὐτοῦ						
G3588	his wife	him						
	G1135	G846						

Additional Cross-References

John 15:14 (Parallel theme): Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Exodus 40:27 (References Lord): And he burnt sweet incense thereon; as the LORD commanded Moses.

Exodus 40:32 (References Lord): When they went into the tent of the congregation, and when they came near unto the altar, they washed; as the LORD commanded Moses.