

## JOSEFF A GENI IESU.

**Emyn:** 457 *'Draw yn ninas Dafydd Frenin.'*

**Darlleniad:** Mathew 1:18-25, 2:13-15.

**Neges:** Hanes y geni trwy lygaid Joseff.

### A. JOSEFF Y DYN DA.

*'Roedd Joseff, oedd yn mynd i'w phriodi (Mair), yn ddyn da a charedig,'* 19 Beibl.net. Roedd Joseff a Mair wedi dyweddïo; yn gyfreithiol roeddent eisoes yn wŷr a gwraig, er nad oeddent yn byw gyda'i gilydd. Dychmygwch ei syndod pan clywodd bod Mair yn feichiog. *'Pan oedd Mair ei fam wedi ei dyweddïo i Joseff, cyn iddynt ddod at ei gilydd fe gafwyd ei bod hi'n feichiog o'r Ysbryd Glân,'* 18.

**Sut allai Mair wneud y fath beth?** Pam ei fradychu felly? Pwy oedd y tad? Roedd penderfyniad anodd gyda Joseff i wneud.

*'A chan ei fod yn ddyn cyfiawn, ond heb ddymuno ei chywilyddio'n gyhoeddus, penderfynodd Joseff, ei gŵr, ei gollwng ymaith yn ddirgel,'* 19. **Joseff:** 1. Gallai dorri'r berthynas a mynnu bod Mair yn cael ei lladd. 2. Gallai gytuno i ddweud mai ef oedd y tad, er mwyn ysgafnhau'r baich ar Mair. Buasai penderfyniad tebyg yn groes i'r

gyfraith a'r Ysgrythurau. Gan fod Joseff yn ddyn cyfiawn, penderfynodd 'ei gollwng yn ddirgel,' 'i ganslo'r briodas,' Beibl.net. Wedi penderfynu ar ysgariad roedd 2 gyfeiriad posib: i) Cymryd llwybr cyfreithiol yn erbyn Mair. ii) Ei gollwng yn dawel, heb ei chywilyddio yn gyhoeddus. Dyma wnaeth Joseff ddewis. Roedd ar fin cerdded i ffwrdd o'r hanes. Gadael pan oedd un o ddigwyddiadau pwysicaf y ddaear ar fin cymryd lle! Ond dyma angel yn ymddangos iddo mewn breuddwyd ac yn newid ei feddwl. **A ydym wedi penderfynu 'cerdded i ffwrdd' o ryw sefyllfa ond yna mae Duw yn ymateb ac yn newid ein penderfyniad?**

### B. JOSEFF Y DYN UFUDD.

*'Ond wedi iddo gynllunio felly, dyma angel yr Arglwydd yn ymddangos iddo mewn breuddwyd, a dweud, "Joseff fab Dafydd, paid ag ofni cymryd Mair yn wraig i ti, oherwydd y mae'r hyn a genhedlwyd ynddi yn deillio o'r Ysbryd Glân,"* 20. Derbyniodd newyddion da sef, nad oedd Mair wedi bod yn anffyddlon iddo a bod plentyn Mair wedi ei genhedlu o'r Ysbryd Glân. Ond sut fuasai ei deulu a'i ffrindiau yn ymateb i'r fath newyddion? **A ydyw am blesio pobl neu wrando ar Dduw?** *'A phan ddeffrodd Joseff o'i gwsg, gwnaeth fel yr oedd angel yr Arglwydd wedi*

*gorchymyn, a chymryd Mair yn wraig iddo,' 24. Beth amdanom ni? A ydym am blesio pobl neu blesio Duw?*

### C. JOSEFF Y DYN PAROD.

Nid yn unig yn ufudd i Dduw, roedd hefyd yn ddyn parod.

i) Pan ddaeth y gorchymyn gan Cesar i ymgofrestru ym Methlehem, ni wnaeth esgusodion gan ddatgan bod Mair yn feichiog a'r daith yn bell. Na, fe aeth! Er yr anawsterau a brofodd ym Methlehem, 'Dim lle!' parhaodd yn gefn ac anogaeth i Mair. Wedi'r cyfan, roedd Duw yn rheoli pob dim! ii) Pan ddaeth yn amser i gyflwyno'r baban Iesu yn y deml, dyma a wnaeth Joseff, Luc 2:22. iii) Pan wnaeth Herod y brenin creulon bygwth lladd y baban Iesu, dyma Joseff yn cymryd y plentyn a'i fam, ac yn ffoi i'r Aifft, Mathew 2:13. Gwnaethant aros yno hyd nes bod Duw yn eu galw'n ôl, 2:19. Roedd Joseff yn barod i wrando ac ufuddhau i Dduw. Yn wir, dyn da a chyfiawn oedd Joseff.

Nid oedd dyfodiad Iesu i'r byd yn un hawdd. Cafodd ei eni mewn stabl i anifeiliaid, nid oedd gofal byd-wraig ganddo, ac roedd brenin cas yn ceisio ei ladd! Ond dyfod i fyd syrthiedig a wnaeth Iesu, byd llawn heriau, byd llawn peryglon ac anghenion. A fuasem ni wedi rhoi lloches iddo ar noson ei eni neu ei amddiffyn rhag casineb y brenin?

Daeth Iesu i'r byd, er ein mwyn; mor fawr yw ei gariad tuag atom. Mae'r ffordd y gwnawn drin eraill yn dangos ein perthynas ag Iesu! "*Credwch chi fi, pan wnaethoch helpu'r person lleiaf pwysig sy'n perthyn i mi, gwnaethoch chi fy helpu i,*" Mathew 25:40 Beibl.net. A wnawn fyw bywyd da a chyfiawn fel Joseff? **Sut gallwn ni ddangos cariad Iesu Grist i eraill y Nadolig hwn?**

### Gweddi:

Dad Nefol, rhown ddiolch i ti heddiw am y newyddion da sydd gennym yn Iesu Grist. O Arglwydd, gwna ni'n gyhoeddwy'r dy newyddion da eleni – yn ein cymuned, yn ein bro a'n gwlad. Boed i bobl wybod am dy ddaioni, dy ras a'th drugaredd. Helpa ni fel eglwys i lewyrchu dy gariad di mewn gair a gweithred.

Rydym am ddiolch iti, O Dad, am fod Iesu Grist, yr Immanuel, yn medru dod i'n hymyl pa beth bynnag yw ein sefyllfaoedd a'n hamgylchiadau. Os yw'n dywyll arnom, os oes rhyw ofid neu siom neu dristwch yn mynnu bwrw'i gysgod dros ein byd, helpa ni i gofio mai Iesu yw Goleuni'r Byd. Diolchwn fod unrhyw un sydd yn ei ddilyn ef, byth yn rhodio mewn tywyllwch, ond bod ganddo oleuni'r bywyd. Helpa ni i ddangos Ei oleuni a'i gariad y Nadolig hwn. Yn ei enw, Amen.

## **JOSEPH AND THE BIRTH OF JESUS.**

**Hymn:** 917 *'Once in royal David's city.'*

**Reading:** Matthew 1:18-25; 2:13-15.

**Message:** The birth of Jesus through Joseph's eyes.

### **A. JOSEPH, A JUST MAN.**

*'Joseph her husband was a righteous / just man,'* 19. Joseph and Mary were engaged, (legally, they were already considered husband and wife). It must have been shocking news for Joseph when he heard, *'before they came together, she was found to be with child,'* 18. How could Mary do such a thing? Why had she betrayed him? Who was the father? Joseph had a difficult decision to make.

*'Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly,'* 19. i) By law, Joseph could have broken the relationship and have Mary stoned. ii) Joseph could say that he was the father thus reducing the shame on Mary but being a just man he could not lie and go against the law and the Scriptures.

Joseph intended to divorce Mary: a) He could take legal action against Mary and shame her publicly; b) He could divorce her quietly. This is what he intended to do.

Joseph was about to walk away! Not just from Mary, but from the greatest story ever – the birth of God's Son. God intervened, and an angel appeared to Joseph and assured him that Mary had not been unfaithful and that he was to take Mary as his wife. Are we sometimes tempted to walk away from something? **What is God telling us?**

### **B. AN OBEDIENT MAN.**

While all this was happening, *'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,"* 20. There was good news. Mary had not been unfaithful for the child was conceived by the Holy Spirit. This was no ordinary baby, but Jesus, 'the Saviour of the world.' It was also mixed news, for how was he going to explain to family and friends that he was not the father and that it was 'the work of the spirit'. Again, would it not be easier just to walk away? *'When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel commanded him, and took Mary as his wife,'* 24.

Rather than pleasing people, Joseph listens to God. Are we prepared to listen and obey God?

### **C. JOSEPH, FURTHER OBEDIENCE.**

Not only did Joseph listen to God, he responded in obedience. i) To Authority: When the call to register for a census was made by Caesar Augustus, Joseph did not make excuses with regard to Mary's pregnancy or the great distance to Bethlehem. No, he went. Despite all the troubles when he arrived in Bethlehem, 'No room at the inn,' Joseph remained supportive of Mary. God was in control of all! *'But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman.'* ii) To God's Word: Joseph presented the baby Jesus to God and made an offering as required by the law, Luke 2:22. *'They brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.'*

iii) To God's Warning: "Rise, take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt," Matt. 2. Joseph in obedience took Mary as his wife, went to Bethlehem and protected the child in Egypt. Truly, Joseph was a good and just man.

Jesus' birth was unusual, to say the least. Born in a stable, no midwife to help, pursued by Herod. Yet Jesus came to a real world, a world full of challenges and needs. Would

we have offered Joseph, Mary and Jesus a place to stay? The way we treat others reflects our relationship with Jesus. Jesus came to earth to show his love for you and me. How can we be good and just like Joseph? How can we show Jesus' love this Christmas?

### **Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for the good news that we have in Jesus Christ. O, Lord, make us proclaimers of your good news this Christmas – in our community and in our land. We desire that others may know of your goodness, your grace and your mercy. Help us as a church to show your love, in word and in deed.

We thank you Lord, that Jesus, the Immanuel, is able to be with us whatever our circumstances and situations may be. If we are worried or disappointed with circumstances, if we are burdened by the darkness that shadows our world, help us to remember that Jesus is the Light of the World. We give thanks that everyone who follows Jesus, never has to walk in darkness, but has his love, peace and joy within. Help us to reflect Jesus' light and love this Christmas. In His name, Amen.

