

Sermon Title: "THE FORGOTTEN MAN OF CHRISTMAS"

Date: December 11, 2022 - Matthew 1:18-25

Central Idea: God's plan is fulfilled when we obey the Word of God. Do you obey God's Word?

Introduction: The forgotten man of Christmas is Joseph. Do you know that he never speaks in the Bible? One commentator called him "Joseph the Silent." We see him to be a "righteous man," God-fearing, courageous, and devoted to Mary, his espoused. The situation brought to him both pain and a problem. In response, he turned aside to think it out in the presence of the Lord. Is that what you do with your problems and pains?

I. Obedience to God

1. A man of justice v. 19
2. A man of discretion v. 19
3. A man of piety v. 20
4. A man of obedience v. 24
 - (1) He obeyed immediately
 - (2) He obeyed in painful circumstances
 - (3) He obeyed in spite of fear
 - (4) He obeyed the Word of God
5. A man of self-discipline v. 25

II. Consequences of Obedience

1. Immediate personal consequences v. 25
2. Lifetime of consequences Matthew 2

III. Influence of Obedience

1. How others think about God
2. How others yield to the will of God

Conclusion: Joseph demonstrates to us all the consequences and influence of obedience to the Word of God. God has a plan for us that can only be fulfilled if we are obedient to His Word.