

## Getting Ready for Christmas

# The Cost of Christmas

### I. Introduction

- A. Matthew 1:18-25 (NLT) <sup>18</sup>Now this is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Joseph, her fiancé, being a just man, decided to break the engagement quietly, so as not to disgrace her publicly. <sup>20</sup>As he considered this, he fell asleep, and an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to go ahead with your marriage to Mary. For the child within her has been conceived by the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All of this happened to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: <sup>23</sup>"Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and he will be called Immanuel (meaning, God is with us)." <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord commanded. He brought Mary home to be his wife, <sup>25</sup>but she remained a virgin until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.
1. "Just" (Righteous) - - "ʿSadiq" (Sadeek)
- B. Deuteronomy 22:21 (NLT) *In such cases, the judges must take the girl to the door of her father's home, and the men of the town will stone her to death. She has committed a disgraceful crime in Israel by being promiscuous while living in her parents' home. Such evil must be cleansed from among you.*
- C. Matthew 1:20a (NLT) *As he considered this, he fell asleep, and an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to go ahead with your marriage to Mary."*
- D. Matthew 1:24-25 (NLT) <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord commanded. He brought Mary home to be his wife, <sup>25</sup>but she remained a virgin until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.
- E. Mark 6:3 (NLT) *"He's just the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. And his sisters live right here among us."*
- F. John 8:4-5 (NLT) <sup>4</sup>"Teacher," they said to Jesus, "this woman was caught in the very act of adultery. <sup>5</sup>The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?"
- G. John 8:7 (NLT) *"All right, stone her. But let those who have never sinned throw the first stones!"*
- H. Matthew 5:46 (NLT) *"If you love only those who love you, what good is that? Even corrupt tax collectors do that much."*

1. "You can safely assume you've made God in your own image when it turns out He hates all the same people you do." (Ann LaDotte)

I. Matthew 5:20 (NAS) *"For I say to you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven."*

## II. Conclusion