

COURAGEOUS MEN

By Tom Tapping

MATTHEW 1: 18 – 25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, 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. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Matthew 2:13-23

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.” ¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.” ¹⁹ But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.” ²¹ And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³ And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Without a Compelling Vision of Manhood, without a Gospel Centered Compelling God focused vision of Authentic masculinity Men will settle for less in life.

God wired men to make a difference

- to lead
- to cultivate
- to improve stuff
- to serve
- to build
- to initiate
- to add value

- to father and raise kids

Men are settling for a “less than” life. Not living for the glory and fame of Jesus name among the nations and the good of all people

Masculinity in The Bible:

Genesis 1:1-3 - *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.*

Gen 3:6 - *when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate*

Matthew 1:20 *But as he considered these things, behold, 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.*

- The problem here is not that you are trying to do the right thing but that you are scared/coward
- Jesus in our lives, courage!!!!!!!!!!

COURAGE TO LIVE IN GOD PLAN & PURPOSES:

- Live in God’s purposes, God’s big picture
- vs. 20 *Joseph son of David* – alert J to fact that in OT, Isaiah had prophesied that there would be a child born of a virgin that would come from the family line of David.
- You part of that – you in the story
- To live in God’s purposes, God’s way – to have Jesus in our lives – COURAGE

Matthew 1:19 *And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly*

MATTHEW 1:21 *She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.*

1 Cor 13:11 - *When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways*