

Christmas' Unlikely Hero

(Matthew 1:18-25; 2:19-23)

God used various characters in the story

The Christ Child – the point of Christmas

Mary – the deliverer of Christ

Angels – the announcers of Christ

Shepherds – the adorers of Christ and spreaders of news

Wisemen – the worshippers and gifters for Christ

_____ – the _____ of Christ

Protecting Christ from _____ (1:18-25)

Joseph was a _____ Jew (18-19a)

צַדִּיק – tsaddiq = _____

Known for one's uncompromising obedience to the

Torah, the _____ of Moses

²⁰ If, however, the charge is true and no proof of the girl's virginity can be found, ²¹ she shall be brought to the door of her father's house and there the men of her town shall stone her to death. She has done a disgraceful thing in Israel by being promiscuous while still in her father's house. You must purge the evil from among you. (Deut. 22:20-21)

Joseph was a _____ Jew (19b)

⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. ⁶ And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation." (Exodus 34:5-7)

But then God _____ ... (20-23)

Why did God _____ to tell Joseph?

We _____ through our struggles

...and Joseph _____ (24-25)

Joseph would pay the _____ for the alleged sin

Joseph demonstrated what God would do for us

God is _____

God is _____

God maintained both through _____

Romans 3:22-26

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶ It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Protecting Christ from _____ (2:13-18)

Protecting Christ from _____ (2:19-21)

Protecting Christ from _____ (2:22-23)