Honoring Righteous Fathers

Joseph: an earthly pattern of righteous fatherhood.

South Favet

Introduction

Like Mother's day last month we turn our attention to honoring our father's on this day.

- Children have a God-given responsibilities to honor their parents.
- On the other hand, parents have a God-given responsibility to raise their children in the way they should go. Prov. 22:6

Introduction

- This Father's Day we look at the life of Joseph (Mary's husband): an earthly pattern of biblical fatherhood.
 - True, some information is based upon inferences, but the alternative inferences are much less likely.
 - Fathers who love the eternal welfare of their children will honor their Father whose grace can bring them into His kingdom.

 He intended to quietly put Mary away for adultery (not wanting to disgrace her).

And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. Matthew 1:19

 He did not have relations with Mary (or others) before marriage. Matthew 1:18-19

Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge. Heb 13:4

 He was a law abiding citizen. Luke 2:4-5

And He said to them, "Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." Luke 20:25

 He was spiritually minded. Luke 2:41

For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace. Romans 8:6

 He taught his children God's commandments and teachings. Luke 2:46-47

"You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down and rise up." Deuteronomy 6:7

He was concerned and anxious for Jesus when learning his Son was lost.

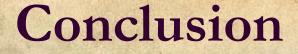
"Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, **Your father** and I have been anxiously looking for You." Luke 2:48

 God's providential care was over Joseph. Matthew 2:13-21

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28

Godly Fathers Today

- Fear the Lord: providing their children a place of refuge. Prov. 14:26
- **Teach their family the holy scriptures:** making them wise for salvation. 2 Tim. 3:15
- Chasten their children: truly loving them. Prov. 3:11-12; 13:24
- Don't provoke their children to wrath. Eph. 6:4
 Leaves an eternal inheritance (aka legacy) for their offspring. Prov. 13:22



Like Mothers, children need to honor their father's because God said so.

How much greater the honor, however, when having righteous fathers!



