

The Cost of Christmas
Selected Scripture

I. The Cost of Christmas for Mary

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It cost Mary her reputation.

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. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

(Matthew 1:18-19)

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. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:20-21).

And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” (Luke :38a)

II. The Cost of Christmas for Joseph

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It cost Joseph his reputation.

It cost Joseph his social relationships and job security because he had to leave his home and carpentry business shortly after Jesus was born.

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.” And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-14).

*When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.
(Matthew 1:24-25)*

III. The Cost of Christmas for Jesus.

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It cost Jesus the glory He had always known as God the Son.

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

(Philippians 2:5-8)

IV. What Has Christmas Cost You?

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Christmas means Christ has come.

And when Christ comes into our lives,
it costs us something.

And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

(Luke 9:23-24)

Ask yourself: “How have I shown my willingness to pay the price required to be obedient to God?”