

The Burden Joseph Carried for Jesus

The Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son.

ISAIAH 7:14

Written by Bill Perkins

"She will give birth to a son, and you are
to give him the name Jesus"
— Matthew 1:21

The whispers spread—an adulteress.
The scorn lashed out in silence—
a whip without words.

The glancing looks cut deep—
knives drawn in daylight.
The honor of two families
cut down in the street.

Joseph's heart ached—
caught between love and law—
a vise tightening with each whisper.

You may not know this about Jesus:
before His name was revealed,
Joseph bore the burden—
a shield for Mary,
a shelter for the Son,
a testimony of faith.

It was into that confusion,
into that storm of shame and sorrow—
God sent an angel.

And with one word from heaven,
hope was reborn—
like dawn after a long night.

"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."

Joseph obeyed.
And in obeying, he assumed responsibility.
He carried the whispers himself—
not crushed by them,
but steady, believing what God had said.

He damaged his own reputation
to protect her from public disgrace.
And in doing so,
he fulfilled prophecy.

He gave Mary shelter—
like a house in a storm.
He gave Jesus legitimacy in David's line—
like a bridge spanning centuries.
He bore the scandal himself—
so salvation could come in His name.

The name fulfills prophecy.
The name reveals salvation.
The name—Jesus.

"The Lord Himself will give you a sign.
Behold, the virgin shall conceive
and bear a Son." Isaiah 7:14