

## SEND MARY AWAY SECRETLY

(Matt.1:19) “And now (de) Joseph her (aute/ gsf) husband (ho aner), **being (eimi/ p.a.ptc nsm)** a righteous man (dikaios), and (kai) **not wanting (me theol/ p.a.ptc.nsm) to disgrace (deigmatizo/ a.a.infin)** her (aute/ asf), **desired** (boulomai/ a.p.ind.3ps) [main verb] **to put her (aute/ asf) away (abluo/ a.a.infin)** secretly (lathra/ adverb).”

**NOTE:** “The participle like the infinitive is not a mood but verbal substantives. But while the infinitive maintains itself as a noun, the participle became an adjective.” (Dana and Mantey, Greek Grammar, pg.220)

“The participle is used when the real object of the governing verb is a person or thing whose act or state is described by the participle.” (pg.220/ **being and not wanting/ p.a.ptc.nsm**)

Note that we have two participles and two infinites working with one main verb (desire/ boulomai/ mental decision/ a.p.ind 3ps).

<b>This lesson will study four aspects of Joseph’s decision to “Send Mary Away Secretly.”</b>
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### 1. It was after Joseph discovered that Mary was three months pregnant (Matt.1:18) that we are introduced to Joseph’s great emotional and mental internal conflict regarding it (Matt.1:19).

This great internal conflict is revealed by the two present active participles and two aorist active infinitives associated with Joseph’s mental desire expressed by his decision to divorce Mary.

Joseph’s world was shocked and rocked as never before in his life by discovering Mary’s unexpected pregnancy. In hind-sight, he will say that he wouldn’t want to go through this again but wouldn’t change a thing because of the transformational change in his spiritual life (Rom.12:1-2).

**The first present active participle nsm is being (eimi)** [Absolute Status Quo verb of existence) a **righteous man** (dikaios/ pred.adj./ nsm).

### 2. The first (p.a.ptc.nsm) (being) is associated with Joseph’s experiential righteousness – “Joseph her the husband being righteous man.”

There are three phases of spiritual righteousness:

- |          |              |                          |                        |
|----------|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| • (Ph.1) | Positional   | (2 Cor.5:21)             | Salvation;             |
| • (Ph.2) | Experiential | (Rom.1:16-17)            | Christian Way of Life; |
| • (Ph.3) | Ultimate     | (Matt.25:46-8 Cor.5:6-8) | Eternity               |

**NOTE:** Experiential righteousness is based on consistent advancing in spiritual growth maturity by the consistent exercise of the faith cycle in CWL (**Hab.2:4**; Rom.1:17; Gal.3:11; Heb.10:23).

**The conflict** is between walking by faith or by sight in CWL (2 Cor.5:7; 1 Cor.1:18, 20, 25, 26-31).

**NOTE:** The key to walking by the faith cycle is the consistent **INHALE AND EXHALE** of all Scriptures.

(2 Tim.3:16-17) “**All (pas/ nsf) Scripture is inspired by God** (God-breathed) [inhale and exhale of the word of God] **and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.**” (One Greek sentence) **See note-5 profits of consistent exhale and inhale).**

**The cycling of Categorical Bible Doctrine was the key to Joseph’s solution to his problem.**

- This is experiential righteousness in Christian Way of Life.

**3. The second (p.a.ptc.nsm) (me thelo) [not wanting] introduces Joseph’s biggest test as a believer (1 Cor.10:13; 2 Cor.10:3-6; Eph.4:25-32).**

**EXAMPLE: Jacob is wrestling at Peniel (Gen.32:22-32),**

Joseph is wrestling at Nazareth with the Lord regarding the categorical Bible doctrine regarding a great crisis in his life.

**Spiritual Wrestling** - “Lord, what are my options in the Word for Mary’s unfaithfulness of adultery?”

- **The first question we should ask Joseph**, “Are you sure about Mary’s pregnancy?”
  - **His Response:** “How else could Mary get pregnant?”
- **The second question we should ask Joseph** “Is there any reference in the Bible for a virgin getting pregnant?”
  - **His Response: Yes, (Isa.7:14)** Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel.

**God intervened because of Joseph’s Positive Volition towards the word of God (Matt.1:20-23; 1 Thess.5:10).**

**4. Joseph will learn several important doctrinal principles from test for transformation.**

Spiritually mature believers will be **pushed to the edge of mature faith** for the purpose of unbelievable **spiritual transformation in their Christian Way of Life (Walk)** (Rom.12:1-2; 1 Cor.10:13).

**EXAMPLES:**

- **One is from the Book and the life of Job.**
  - “False assumptions lead to false interpretations, which lead to false expectations, leading to false applications.”
- **Another is from Book of Genesis and life of Jacob.**
  - “Your name shall no longer be Jacob (supplanter), but Israel (persists with God); for you have striven with God and with men and have prevailed. (Gen.32:28)

**This Christmas 2018 lesson series will help you face difficult times this holiday season, equipping you so that you can experience God’s work of spiritual transformation in your life.**