

Week 52  
358/07

**Transforming Daily**  
**“... (as was supposed) ...”**  
*Luke 3:23*

The word “supposed” can mean several things. In this text, it’s supposed to mean that Joseph wasn’t really the biological father of Jesus. The writer, Luke, is informing the reader of two facts. One of the facts is the lineage through which Jesus came. The other fact was to let the reader in on a secret that though Joseph was in the lineage of Jesus, he wasn’t actually the biological father of Jesus. However, Joseph was the only earthly father that Jesus knew. One might refer to him today as the stepfather of Jesus.

There is another use for “supposed” in this text. It is more of an implication rather than a direct statement. “Supposed” here can also refer to the sovereign will of God. Jesus Christ came through Mary as prophesied, and as God would have it, Joseph was her husband. Just like Mary, Joseph was chosen by God to be the other parent. Could Joseph have refused the appointment? He sure could have, but encouraged by an angel not to, he chose to accept the charge as it was supposed to be.

God’s creatures are not robots. God has given us a personal will to choose to be obedient or disobedient. In relationship to Jesus, as it was supposed to be, Mary and Joseph chose to be obedient, not only up to and through the birth of Jesus, but they were obedient to God throughout Christ’s rearing and ministry. There are only two ways to know God’s will: through His Word and through His work.

Before an event occurs we are left to God’s Word to give us direction regarding His will. There could be many options or applications, if you will, but all according to the principles of His Word. The other way to know God’s will is after it happens. One might say, “Even if the event is catastrophic, adverse, or detrimental?” Yes, even if the event or events are contrary to what we thought or wanted. Remember, He either allows, arranges, assigns, or appoints His will to be done. Do you think that a virgin with child who knew no man was Mary’s plan for marriage and family, or that of Joseph’s? Do you think they wanted to travel many miles in the last days of her pregnancy? Do you think that Herod killing hundreds of male children from two years old and under was Mary and Joseph’s will?

You and I have only to be concerned with our personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Do you have one? Have you exercised your personal will to receive the free gift of eternal life according to God’s Word? Are you as obedient in your relationship to God through Christ as was His earthly Father, Joseph, (as was supposed)?