

JOSEPH OF A.  
Yeshua. Hmmm...good..(nods) When  
will you return from Egypt?

JOSEPH  
When it's declared safe.

JOSEPH OF A.  
You know **Jesus** would be his name in  
a wider Mediterranean world. **I** think  
Yeshua ah.. *Jesus* will have power

JOSEPH  
Jesus.. of Nazareth.. hmmm.

EXT. SKY ABOVE -DAY/NIGHT

We see the sun rise, traverse the sky, set, moon rise, go  
through it's phases, moon set, another sun rise.

EXT. JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

Lower Third C.G.: **11 Years Later**

We are taken above the countryside and into a small village.

EXT. NAZARETH. CITY STREET. - EVENING

The streets are filled with merchants packing their wears on  
their carts and moving away, beggars and street urchins work  
their trade, women are hurrying home with ingredients for an  
evening meal, Roman soldiers are gathered in groups sharing  
jokes, laughing, exerting their power over average citizens,  
on horseback, on foot. They are an intimidating lot.

Lower Third C.G.: Nazareth

A BLIND MAN stumbles in front of one of the horses and is  
run over...trampled...left to die.

EXT. NAZARETH. SIDE STREET. - EVENING

Joseph & JESUS(1) now 11 are walking home from their labors.  
Two Roman Soldiers on Horseback pass them by slowly, looking  
them over carefully. Jesus returns the look, large innocent  
eyes, the soldiers move on.

(CONTINUED)

JESUS (1)  
Why are they always so suspicious?

JOSEPH  
Soldiers are paid to see danger  
everywhere. Best to ignore them,  
son, we don't want trouble.

Joseph delivers a fake punch in Jesus (1) direction.

JOSEPH (cont'd)  
Good work today!

Jesus returns the blow with gusto.

JESUS (1)  
Thanks...race ya, Poppa!

The two set off full speed. Turning on a main city street.

EXT. NAZARETH. CITY MAIN STREET. - EVENING

...a drunken YOUNG ROMAN SOLDIER and HIS BUDDY are stepping awkwardly out of a tavern. Jesus (1) looking back over his shoulder runs into the Young Soldier sending him into A CRIPPLED MAN who's passing. Attempting to keep his balance, Jesus (1) collides first with a stack of merchant baskets, chickens, and then the merchant himself ending up in a pile along with peaches, persimmons and lemons.

The Young Soldier, thinking the Crippled Man ran into him, draws his sword in anger grabbing the man by the collar. Jesus (1) lunges forward getting between the two.

JESUS (1)  
I ran into you.. I'm sorry, sir.

Jesus (1) grabs the Young Soldiers sword arm at the wrist. The soldier's Buddy draws his sword. Moving quickly behind the buddy, Joseph squeezes his shoulder, hard.

JOSEPH  
(To The Buddy)  
Let the two of them work it out.

YOUNG SOLDIER  
You're breaking my wrist. Who're  
you...? You're just a kid.

JOSEPH  
He's a stone mason and a carpenter  
like his father.

(CONTINUED)

The Buddy is wilting under the pressure exerted by Joseph's hand. A crowd is gathering homeless and broken human beings.

JESUS (1)

Perhaps we could make you something  
in exchange for...

JOSEPH

Maybe a chest for all the souvenirs  
of your visit here in Palestine.

JESUS (1)

...to take home to your mother? But  
just one thing.

YOUNG SOLDIER

Of course there's always a trade,  
you're a Jew!

JESUS (1)

(indicating The Cripple)

His safety! My work for your  
kindness.

YOUNG SOLDIER

His life is worthless, as would be  
your cheap wooden box.

Jesus (1) and Joseph release their grips. The soldiers shove and push their way through the crowd

Jesus (1) bends to the Crippled Man showing great concern. Helping him to his feet, notices the Crippled Man is covered in Eczema. Jesus then takes note of others-many missing limbs -various degrees of sicknesses, some who have just given up all hope..all gathering around him and Joseph. Jesus turns to the Crippled Man...

JESUS (1)

Will you be all right?

CRIPPLED MAN

As well as ever I guess. Thank you.

JESUS (1)

(to the people)

What do you want, or need?

The people just stare, not answering, looking drugged

JESUS (1) (CONTINUES)

Dad, why are they like this? Why  
aren't they helped by any one?

(CONTINUED)

JOSEPH

No one cares enough. They need so much and there's no one, no place for them to go.

JESUS (1)

Some food, medicine, it's simple.

JOSEPH

Food, money and care. They're too sick to work or unskilled and some, are just above unconsciousness.

JESUS (1)

(almost in tears)

Someone has to care! They can't be left to suffer or die.

JOSEPH

I know son. I know.

JESUS (1)

Maybe...

JOSEPH

Yes?

JESUS (1)

...a little love.

They move on, Jesus (1) lost in thought.

INT. NAZARETH. MARY & JOSEPH'S HOME. - EVENING

The home is rustic comprised of stone & plank floors, bright work and beams of fine looking wood. The cabinetry is first class, Joseph's specialty. A copy of the Torah is on a stand on a side board along with a Menorah.

MARY is holding a BABY GIRL(1) and setting the dinner table. Two boys, JAMES (a red haired 8 year old) and THOMAS (10) run around the room teasing their 3 year old BROTHER. Another LITTLE GIRL (4), a YOUNG BOY (5) bounce up-and-down laughing at the chaos being created by the older brothers.

MARY

James...Thomas! Stop that running.  
You might run into your sister!

(CONTINUED)

The running comes to a sudden halt as the boys hear a sound. They look up to the door as Joseph and Jesus(1) enter. "Caught in the act", the brothers look down at the floor. The tension breaks when Mary looks at Joseph, shrugs and smiles. Then Joseph laughs and all share hugs and hello's.

JAMES / THOMAS

*Hey, Dad.*

*Hi Dad.*

Jesus (1) scuffles with Thomas playfully. Joseph is surrounded by the young ones who are tugging and pulling on an obviously loved Father. He picks up the Little Girl, kisses her and whispers in her ear. He switches arms and goes over to Mary and kisses her and the baby in her arms.

MARY

It's so late, you two must be exhausted.

JESUS(1)

(taking a fig from a bowl)  
Well, starving anyway.

THOMAS

(playfully)  
Us too. We've been waiting!

JOSEPH

We were delayed while your son fought off the Roman army!

MARY

(distracted at the stove)  
That's nice.

JOSEPH

Uncle Joe got the contract for the temple kitchen, and we get to do the cabinets. Huh...?

MARY

I'm very pleased, we need the money. Jonas was here asking abo..

JOSEPH

I know...

JOSEPH AND MARY

...his new table!

JOSEPH

I'll finish it tonight, before we leave for Qumran.

(CONTINUED)

JESUS (1)  
(speaking to Thomas)  
I'll be memorizing the scrolls.

THOMAS  
Big deal! I'm glad I don't have to.

JOSEPH  
(to Mary)  
We'll be stopping at Uncle Joseph's  
on the way. He wants to show Jesus  
the maps for their trip to the  
western isles.

MARY  
I'm still not sure about that?

Jesus is looking up at Mary wide-eyed.

JESUS (1)  
Mom? It'll be great for the family.  
I'll be learning another trade.

JOSEPH  
Tin! Lots of money in tin. Look at  
Uncle Joe.

Mary smiles with a screwed up wrinkled brow.

MARY  
Well...

JESUS (1)  
Please!

THOMAS  
Gohhll. S'not fair. Why does Uncle  
Joe always pick you?

MARY  
(smiling wryly)  
Right now, you need to wash.  
Dinner's ready.

JOSEPH & JESUS (1)  
Of course. We will, Mom!

Jesus (1) messes James hair. Thomas follows out the door.

THOMAS  
I want to hear about the soldiers.

Jesus turns to him with a playful lunge and the two wrestle  
their way through the door.

(CONTINUED)

JESUS (1)  
It was like this, Thomas!

MARY  
(laughing)  
Out, out, out you ruffians! Out of  
my kitchen.

EXT. NAZARETH. MARY & JOSEPH'S HOME - EVENING

Thomas keeps poking and jabbing at Jesus (1) as Joseph now at the cistern observes his sons with pride. Jesus (1) and Thomas wash as they talk.

THOMAS  
Did'ya really fight a Roman Soldier  
Were there a lot of them? Give 'em  
a right and a left and...

JESUS (1)  
Then they ran like little girls.  
Hey, would you help me make some  
bread after supper?

THOMAS  
Sure. Why?

JESUS (1)  
Oh I think it might help some..

The boys run back inside.

INT. NAZARETH. MARY & JOSEPH'S HOME. KITCHEN. - EVENING

Mary, still holding the Baby Girl, standing at the wood stove turns to the commotion as Jesus (1) and Thomas charge in followed by Joseph.

JESUS (1)  
Hey, Mom. I need to bake some  
bread, after dinner. Thomas is  
going to help me.

MARY  
Bread! But it's getting so  
late and you leave for Uncle Joe's  
and Qumran in a the early morn.

JESUS (1)  
I know! And, Dad and I'll be  
walking through the city as we

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

JESUS (1) (cont'd)  
 travel and I want to make bread I  
 can give them to help a little.

MARY  
 Slow down, of course, we'll do it  
 together.

EXT. PALESTINE. CITY STREET - DAY

Jesus(1) carrying two large bundles of bread, and Joseph walk among a waking crowd of bustling merchants setting up stands and pushing carts. Roman soldiers on foot and horse back bully their way through the crowds. The street people are warming at fires, coming out of alley ways and the citys nooks and crannies. A few Rabbis debate a point on a corner. Jesus (1) stops to speak with some of the merchants who either respond with a physical "no, not interested" or..

JESUS (1)  
 Just a few pieces of fruit, what  
 ever you can spare. Tithe just a  
 small percentage!

...they nod in agreement, turning to follow Jesus (1) and Joseph. The street people recognizing Jesus (1) also begin to collect and follow. Rabbi's take note of the gathering turn their attention to whatever may be about to happen as do several of the Roman soldiers. Jesus has stopped in front of the Crippled Man. Looking slightly unsure of himself...

JESUS (1) (cont'd)  
 How are you?

CRIPPLED MAN  
 As well as can be expected.

JESUS (1)  
 Expectations too often disappoint.

CRIPPLED MAN  
 I don't.. understand.

JESUS (1)  
 Maybe try saying *I am well*.

CRIPPLED MAN  
 (suspicious)  
 I am well?

(CONTINUED)



JESUS (1)  
Well, not questioning, but mean it.

CRIPPLED MAN  
*I am well!*

JESUS (1)  
That's sounded good! (smiles)

CRIPPLED MAN  
And *hungry!* (looking at the food)

JESUS (1)  
(handing him bread)  
Then taste and enjoy this.

JESUS (1) CONTINUED  
(to the crowd)  
I brought bread, and...!

He begins to hand out small loaves and is almost knocked over in the stampede. He points to the few merchants who accompanied him.

JESUS (1)  
...and there's more. These men too  
have food for you.

The merchants are rushed while handing out some of their fruit and vegetables. Jesus (1) turns to the Rabbis standing open mouthed at the sight before them.

JESUS (1) (cont'd)  
Might you offer some help?

They stare blankly. Joseph is beaming with pride.

DISSOLVE

EXT. JERUSALEM. OUTSKIRTS. - DAY

Jesus(1) with Joseph's arm draped over his shoulder, walks along a path lined with succulents, date palms, lost in conversation. Groups of dirty children play. Two women are returning from market. Free range Goats & Roosters *abundant*.