

Joseph's Dilemma

Matthew's Christmas Story- Part 2 Matt. 1:18-25
Noah Largent 12/6/20



Matthew 1:18-25 The birth of Jesus Christ came about this way: After his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, it was discovered before they came together that she was pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ So her husband, Joseph, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her publicly, decided to divorce her secretly. ²⁰ But after he had considered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what has been conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." ²² Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14) which is translated "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did as the Lord's angel had commanded him. He married her ²⁵ but did not have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. And he named him Jesus.

1. Why a virgin birth?

Matthew assumes his audience believed that God's power is limitless and can be mysterious. This miracle enables us to see why Jesus could be both fully human and fully God. Only God could see, understand and do the things that Jesus did. As a human he experienced temptation, suffering & was able to die.

FULFILL OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETIC PROMISES



2. What does Joseph have to teach us?

Joseph is faced with a real social and religious dilemma. Obedience is not always easy, but it's ALWAYS for our good and honors God by putting Him in the proper place in our life.

3. Why come as a baby?

God has always been committed to working through the human family. The Christmas story is a demonstration of God's determination to keep his promise and finish his project! This is one reason his followers lives are marked by a settled peace, knowing that God loves them and is committed to them and to restoring all things!



Community Group Questions:

1. What do you think? How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
2. What modern day dilemmas do we face when we obey God instead of following the current cultural flow?
3. Is there anyone you'll be talking with this Christmas who needs to see or hear the good news through you? Pray for them now.
4. What can you put into practice from what you've learned today?

Notes:
