

— Matthew 1.18-23 —
2nd Sunday of Advent, Dec 6, 2020

The Birth of Jesus

Mat 1.18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." 22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

* **Last** week, Matthew left us with two mysteries:

1) How can Jesus be a new _____ and a son of _____ and of _____ greater than both?

2) How can Jesus be both David's _____ & _____?

Isa 11.1 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots ... 10 And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who will stand as a banner to the people ...

Rev 22.16 "I, Jesus, ... am the Root and the Offspring of David"

* **How** did engagement and marriage work under OT law and Hebrew custom?

* **What** kinds of thoughts would have been going through Joseph's mind when he learned Mary was pregnant?

* **What** consequences could result from adultery under God's law and Roman rule?

* **What** was Joseph's only real choice when it came to divorcing Mary?

* **Was** Joseph ignoring God's law by declining to charge Mary?

* **How** does God in the OT show the importance of a righteous judicial system and of due process under the law?

* **Joseph's** decision toward Mary showed righteousness and _____. How does God show the same?

Dan 9.16 "O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away"

Zech 7.9 Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Execute true justice, Show mercy and compassion Everyone to his brother."

Mat 23:23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith."

* **What** is the angel telling Joseph to do toward Mary? (20)

* **What** does Joseph do when he awakes? (24)

* **What** is the significance of Joseph naming the child? (21)

* **What** was Joseph's choice regarding Mary's shame? How was he a picture of Christ?

* **Jesus** is Greek for the Hebrew name _____,
and it means "_____."

Isa 53.4 Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows;

* **How** did Jesus do even more for us?

* **One** of the main reason people reject the incarnation is?

* **Joseph** "did not know" Mary until she gave birth to Jesus. What does this tell us about Joseph, his disposition of heart, and his purpose?

* **Joshua** was like a resurrected _____.

* **What's** the significance of Messiah being called Immanuel?

Luke 22.42 "[N]evertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."

Mat 20.28 "[T]he Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

* **Has** Joseph been viewed fairly in history?

Isaiah 9.6 For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given ... And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.