

## Study of Matthew Matthew 1:18 – 25

February 13, 2022

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** How does the birth of Jesus impact your daily life?

Our goal is to make Psalms 119:24 a reality in our lives: *“Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.”*

**TODAY: Matthew 1:18 – 25**

After giving an overview of the genealogy of Jesus, showing that HE met the criteria to be the Messiah as a part of the lineage David and Abraham. Now he turns his attention to what we call the Christmas story or the birth of Jesus. Here he will show that the supernatural aspects of the story.

### 1. Function of the Holy Spirit

The birth was on “this wise” or it happened this way.

vs. 18d *“...she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.”*

This is not just any child but God taking on flesh and for that to happen the Holy Spirit must do the work.

vs. 20d *“...for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.”*

We see a reflection of God’s work at creation as the Spirit moves. Here the Holy Spirit moves upon a broken creation and new life will spring forth because of the work of the Messiah. It is also the fulfillment of prophecy for the Messiah that would come would have the Spirit upon HIM.

Isaiah 11:1-2 *“And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: 2 And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord;”* [KJV]

### 2. Family

vs. 20 *“Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.”*

God has found a man that is just. A man that takes care of his family! Under the law he could make her a public example, but he is not willing to do that.

He has a dilemma (my rights verses doing right) but chooses to be discreet.

God sends an angel with a message: **Don’t be afraid!**

Family is God’s idea... God could have showed up any way HE wanted to. If HE would have come in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century people in America would be content if God showed up as a dog for they see dogs and cats as family.

But God didn't create animals to be treated like family. The family structure is HIS idea and it reflects HIS purpose on the earth. Don't be afraid of family!

### 3. Freedom

vs. 21 *"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."*

The Hebrew context was always pointing to a coming savior. One that would come and save HIS people. The birth of this son brings freedom that they have been looking for.

The word save is to deliver; to rescue from danger and destruction; to keep safe and sound

- It is one that would come to make well, to save a suffering one
- It is the present experience of God's power to deliver from the bondage of sin...to set one free!

### 4. Fulfillment

vs. 22 *"Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son..."*

This child is more than just a son... HE is a son that is the fulfillment of God's promise.

Isa 7:12 *"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son..."* [KJV]

Miracle, mystery, and majesty all wrapped up in one event.

This is incarnation...that is God takes on human nature and becomes a man...very God and truly man.

### 5. Fellowship

vs. 23c *"...and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."*

"with us" ...it means among or in company with; to accompany; to be in the midst of denoting association, union and accompaniment;

- It reveals companionship
- To come into fellowship and contact with

Acts 4:12 *"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus."* [KJV]

This is a supernatural act...when God is with us, others take note that we have been with HIM!