

## **Matthew 1:18-25**

### **“Miraculous Conception and Merry Christmas”**

#### **Narrative:**

##### **1. Joseph’s Dilemma (18)**

- Engagement to Mary
  - 2 phases- betrothed- 1 year ratification of the arranged marriage
  - marriage consummation
- estrangement from Mary
  - 3 fold situation:
    - Mary had been unfaithful
    - Telling a far fetched story
    - What to do?

##### **2. Joseph’s Decision (19)**

- His character revealed
  - Just man = wanting to do the right thing and not marry someone who was unfaithful
- His compassion revealed
  - Unwilling to put her to shame
  - Resolved to divorce her quietly

##### **3. Joseph’s Dream (20-23)**

- an angel of the Lord
- Son of David- David kingdom
- She will bear a son, name Him Jesus
- Fulfill prophesy- Immanuel
  - God used His own Word to assure Joseph

**\*\*\*Joseph had a lot of contemplating to do...**

**— Imagine what was going on in his head...**

##### **4. Joseph’s Obedience (24-25)**

- He took Mary as his wife
- Name the son Jesus

#### **Pointe:**

##### **1. This is a Miraculous Conception (repetition)- Joseph is not the father**

- **important doctrine - If not we compromise the authority of Scripture**
  - **If not, any answer to who His father is will not leave the gospel intact**
- God/Man
- It serves 2 purposes for the child to be born:
  1. Sets up His Work
  2. Sets up His Worship

## **2. Who is this Child? Why has He come?**

### **- Who is this Child? Immanuel (God with us)**

- What was written>>> Matthew's way of defense
- "They"
- Less of a name and more of a role or work
- The one who will bring God's presence to broken/sinful people
- Worship Him as God
- Prophecy from Isaiah 7 made to King Ahaz king of Judah
  - Syria/Ephraim threatening
  - Wanted to partner with Assyria instead of trusting God
  - Wouldn't ask for a sign, but God gave him one anyway
- this prophecy was partially fulfilled but Jesus is the complete fulfillment
- God promised even then that Ahaz would have a descendant who would be the Messiah

### **- Why has He come?**

- "You"
- Jesus- save his people from their sins
- Joshua- The Lord saves
  - Name familiar with someone who saves
  - Joshua led Israel into the promised land
  - Jesus would lead people into the presence of God

## **So what's the point?**

- **This child was conceived by the Holy Spirit**
- **Therefore, His is Immanuel**
- **Therefore, He will save people from their sins**

This is why we say, Merry Christmas....

God has visited us... He has sent a Savior

And not an errand boy.... But His only Son...

Have you trusted in him?