

Part I
“Emmanuel: God Forever With Us!”
Matthew 1:18-25

**According To Matthew The Prophecies Of The Old Testament
& The Genealogy & Family History Of Jesus Confirm That
He Is The Long-Awaited Messiah & Savior Of God’s Chosen People!
He Is The Anointed One, The Chosen One Of God, The Christ!**

This story really starts with the introduction of Matthew Gospel:

**The Book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham ...
And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus Who Is Called Christ.**
Matthew 1:1 & 17 (NKJV)

The next important truth Matthew declares to us is that this birth of this child is unique in that Jesus was born of God and not in the normal human tradition! Jesus is conceived by the Will of God & Not by the Will of any Mortal Man Or the Philosophy or Invention of any Man’s Thinking!

Verse 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.

Luke’s Gospel Confirms This Miraculous Conception

And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, & the Power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One Who is to be born will be called the Son of God!”
Luke 1:35 (NKJV)

Therefore, the Messiah, the Anointed One of God, Jesus Christ comes into our world born of woman who miraculously conceived Him by the Will and Power of the Holy Spirit of God and therefore she remains a virgin!

While Luke, in his Gospel account, points out that Mary is the righteous obedient servant of the Lord in accepting her role as mother to Jesus, Matthew points the righteousness and obedience of Joseph as the Lord’s servant.

This is pictured first in his thinking toward Mary, his betrothed wife, after finding out she is pregnant by someone else. Because they are not yet married, he has a decision to make according the Mosaic Law. His heart is pure and even though he is hurt – he still desires to do no harm to her or the baby. So he opts out of the marriage contract in his mind in the most peaceable of terms and proactively decides against stoning her and the baby.

Verse 19: Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, & not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

Joseph’s Noble & Spiritual Character is further brought to light in his immediate obedience to the angel’s message informing him of the truth surrounding the origin of Mary’s child as the Promised Messiah & the only Son of God!

Verses 20 – 21: But while he thought about these things, behold, an Angel of the Lord (Archangel) 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. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His People from their sins.”

**This Is The 3rd Time An Angel Or Angels Are Sent As Messengers
To Guide Those Involved In The Birth Of God’s Only Son!**

**7x Times An Angel Or Angels Are Sent As Messengers
To Guide Those Involved In The Birth Of God's Only Son!**

- 1. Archangel Gabriel Sent To Zachariah The Priest,
To Inform Him Of Birth Of His Son John The Baptist**
- 2. Archangel Gabriel Sent To Mary Of Nazareth,
To Inform Her Of The Birth Of Her Son Of Man & Son Of God. Jesus Christ**
- 3. Archangel (Unnamed – Gabriel) Sent To Joseph of Nazareth In A Dream,
To Inform Him Of The Birth Of Jesus Christ (Mary's Son Of Man) & Son Of God**
- 4. A Multitude Of The Angels (Heavenly Host) Sent To The Shepherds Of Bethlehem,
To Announce The Birth Of The Messiah (God's Only Son)**
- 5. Archangel (Unnamed – Gabriel) – “Being Divinely Informed In A Dream” Sent To Wisemen (Magi),
To Inform Them To Take Another Route Away From King Herod To Their Places Of Origin**
- 6. Archangel (Unnamed – Gabriel) Sent To Joseph of Nazareth In A Dream,
To Inform Him To Flee To Egypt To Save His Wife & God's Son From King Herod's Plot**
- 7. Archangel (Unnamed – Gabriel) – “Being Warned By god In A Dream” Sent To Joseph of Nazareth
To Inform Him Of The Death Of King Herod & The Need To Return To Nazareth**

Then We Hear From God's Holy Word That All These Angelic Visits (Especially The 3rd One Highlighted Here Today By The Apostle Matthew & Past Prophecies (Word's From God) From The Prophet's – Especially Here From Isaiah Are All A Part Of God's Plan Of Redemption!

Verses 22 – 23: So, all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the Prophet (Isaiah), saying: “Behold, the virgin shall be with Child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His Name ‘Emmanuel!’”, which means, ‘God With Us!’

**Oh, But This Prophecy Is Literally Pregnant With Deeper Layers Of Truth!
Both For God's Original Chosen People – The Jews,
& For His Other Flock – The Gentiles, Which Includes All Of Us!**

Finally, We See More Evidence Of Joseph of Nazareth's Noble & Spiritual Character Conveyed In His Immediate Obedience To The Will Of God!

Verses 24 – 25: Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the Angel of the Lord commanded him & took to him his wife, & did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His Name Jesus.

Joseph Of Nazareth's Actions & Character Revealed

1st Joseph Has Faith & Believes What The Angel Says Is The Will Of God For Him & Mary!

“Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him!”

Matthew 1:24a

2nd Joseph Took Mary As His Wife In Perfect Obedience To The Will Of God!

“And took to him his wife and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son!”

Matthew 1:24b-25a

3rd Joseph Adopted Mary's Son As His Very Own!

“And he called His Name Jesus!”

Matthew 1:25b

**In Hebrew - Israelite Culture The Role Of Naming A First-Born Son,
Is Given to the Father Demonstrating
His Family Authority, Genealogy, & Inheritance
According To His Tribe & Linage!**

**In This Act Of Adoption,
Joseph Legitimizes The Birth Of Jesus
As A Descendant Of His Own Household,
Of The Line Of King David Of The Tribe Of Judah!**

Once again, Let Us Refer Back To The Genealogy Recorded By The Apostle Matthew
To Open His Gospel In The First 17 Verses.

The Book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, & Jacob begot Judah, & His Brothers (11 More). Judah begot Perez & Zerah by Tamar... And Jacob begot Joseph the Husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus Who Is Called Christ. Matthew 1:1-3, & 16 (NKJV)

In This Brief Statement Of Fact & Truth About Jesus Beginnings – Earthly & Divine,
Matthew Clearly States To Us This Morning These Central Truths:

Two Central Truths About God's Presence

1) The Presence Of God Is Now Dwelling As One Of Us & Shall Remain With Us Forever!

“His Name Is Emmanuel!” – “God Forever With Us!”

2) The Presence of God Among Us Brings Us His Mercy, Grace, Forgiveness, & Salvation!

“His Name Is Jesus” – “He Has Saved His People From Their Sins.”

Matthew Gives Us Today This Promise:

Today's Promise From Matthew's Gospel

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, *“All Authority has been given to Me in Heaven & on Earth. Go therefore & Make Disciples of All the Nations, Baptizing them in the Name of the Father, & of the Son, & of the Holy Spirit, Teaching them to Observe All Things that I have Commanded you; & Remember, I AM With You Always (Emmanuel), even to the end of the age!”*

Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV)

John Gives Us Today This Promise:

Today's Promise From John's Revelation

“And behold, I AM coming quickly, & My Reward Is With Me (My Everlasting Presence as Emmanuel), To Give to Everyone According to Their Work. I AM the Alpha & the Omega, (I AM) the Beginning & the End, (I AM) the First & the Last!” (I AM Forever Emmanuel)

Revelation 22:12-13 (NKJV)

Now, I Invite You To Respond With Me In Faith

As We Recite Together The Final Words God

Has Given To Us In The Book Of Revelation 22:20-21

Pastor

He Who testifies to these things says, “Surely I AM coming quickly!” “Amen!”

People

“Even so, come, Lord Jesus!”

Pastor

“The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!”

People

“Amen!”