

## The Divine Plan and Human Expectations

Today we will notice that God provides deliverance and often fulfills His promises in ways we do not expect.

Question 1. What a wonderful blessing for Joseph and Mary to be the stepfather/Mother of Jesus, but did it come without a price?

- Joseph and Mary paid the price of lifelong slander and shame for the exultation of the King- Jesus.
- Joseph the Just and Mary the Magnificent. Verses 1-7.  
Joseph was born a prince and Mary a princess, yet both lived serving, rather than being served.

Lk. 1:26, 27; 3:23-31; Matt. 1:1-17; Mark 9:35

- Joseph had every right to divorce Mary for infidelity, which would have caused her to be stoned; yet he believed by faith something greater happened.
- Mary lived with constant slander and shame, since most all reject the truth of the birth of Jesus.

Isa. 63:16; Mal. 1: 6; Jn. 2:3-4; 8:41

Question 2. What would be the point of God choosing Shepherds to be some of the first to proclaim the Messiah?

- The Shepherds of first century were despised and rejected, remaining unclean toward Jewish religious and ritual norms.  
God thinks little of no person, but sent His Son to save all.
- Shepherds of the Sheep. Verses 8-9.

These people generally were unclean and outcasts due to the inability to keep the ceremonial/ritual laws.

Lev. 11: 39-40, Matt. 15:2; Mk. 7:3-5

- The constant care over the Temple Sacrificial lambs requires abiding with the sheep.

Gen. 31:39, 40; Ex. 3:1, 2; 1 Sa. 17:34, 35; Ps. 78:70, 71; Eze. 34:8; Jn. 10:8-12

Question 3. The King of kings and LORD of Lords became man (Jesus) to save humanity from our sins, so why did He experience such poor conditions?

- Jesus' low and humble entry into this world reveals to us that God does not place status and approval with the likeness of man. Jesus remains the Saviour for all humanity, whatever worldly status.
- Jesus the Messiah. Verses 10-14.  
Jesus remains the Creator and Saviour of all mankind.  
Gen. 1:1; 26-27; 3:14-15; 1 Tim. 2:5-6; 1 Jn. 2:2
- Jesus is God in the flesh, who is Christ the LORD.  
Lk. 1:43; 20:42-44; Ac. 10:36; 1 Co. 15:47; Phi. 2:11; 3:8; Col. 2:6
- Jesus' virgin birth, sinless life, and substitutionary death bring glory to God.  
Ps. 69:34, 35; 85:9-12; 96:11-13; Is. 9:6, 7; 44:23; 49:13; 57:19; Je. 23:5, 6; Mi. 5:2-5; Lk. 19:38; Jn. 17:4; Ep. 1:6; 3:20, 21; Phi. 2:11; Re. 5:13

Closing, The Son of God was born of Virgin Mary to provide salvation for all mankind.

## Digging Deeper

EXTRA NOTES:

### Christmas Series



Faith Baptist Church  
Pastor Stuart Boyer  
December 17, 2023

We are all idealists. We picture ourselves a life on earth completely free from every hindrances, a kind of spiritual Utopia where we can always control events, where we can move about as favorites of heaven, adjusting circumstances to suit ourselves.

-A.W. Tozer