

An Angel Came to Joseph

(Matt 1:18-25)

FULFILMENT OF PROPHECY: SALVATION & “GOD WITH US”

- 1.) **HIS COMING:** The miraculous conception of the Christ-child affirms that God’s promise is not lost. Jesus was born of a virgin mother, to an adoptive father in the House of David, and in a fallen world needing salvation from sin (v. 18–19).
- 2.) **HIS ROYAL PEDIGREE:** The miraculous conception of the Christ-child demonstrates Joseph's faithful obedience and righteous actions as a Son of David. Joseph believed God (v. 19–20, 24–25). Verses 18–25 extend verses 1–17.
- 3.) **HIS INCARNATION:** The miraculous conception of the Christ-child is part of God’s plan to save sinners, but it is more than a miracle to draw attention to the unique nature of Jesus. Because Mary was a virgin, only God could have been the father of Jesus, making Jesus the one and only God-Man (“God in the flesh”). God’s plan of salvation in Scripture required nothing less. (v.21, Ro. 6:23, Isa. 9:6).
- 4.) **HIS CONFIRMATION:** The miraculous conception of the Christ-child fulfills what was foretold years earlier in relation to the Immanuel Sign (Isa. 7:14–15, v. 22–23). Jesus is both Salvation and Immanuel, and this timeless truth confirms Jesus’ utmost importance in redeeming fallen humanity:

- God is the creator and redeemer of all things, and His plan to save sinners has not changed. The work of Jesus Christ is that of a Savior from Sin. (Gen. 2:7, 3:15, 12; Isa. 30:15; Ps. 130:8; 2 Sam. 7:12–13; Ro. 5:12-21; Col. 1:15-20; Jn. 3:16, 4:25–26)
- God is faithful to His Word (also see, Mt. 1:22; 2:15, 17, 23; 4:14; 8:17; 12:17; 13:35; 21:4; 27:9)
- God is transcendent over us, yet present with us (v.23, see Isaiah 8:8,10, 9:1-7 as clarifying 7:14)

WHAT IS TRUE AND WHAT WE SHOULD DO:

- *You can believe in God’s plan of salvation for sinners because the events of Jesus’ birth reveal Him to be the Son of God, Immanuel, who miraculously entered human history as the foretold and promised Christ (Messiah).*

APPLICATION:

- ✓ You may not believe in the deity of Jesus, but you cannot say the Bible does not teach it. Scripture urges you to have faith like Mary and Joseph and believe in the Good News about Jesus Christ. Unbelief is a matter of will, not wisdom.
- ✓ Jesus as “God with us” means that God came to dwell with us. But most sinners do not want God with them. Yet, God is righteous and cannot laugh at or tolerate sin. Unrepentant sinners will find everlasting punishment in hell. The Bible urges you to repent from unbelief this very hour, and trust in Jesus as God’s only rescue plan for sinners!
- ✓ Since the God of all heaven and earth has made salvation possible in Jesus, **Christmas** should foremost celebrate the reason for His coming—above the sentimental traditions of the Christmas “season.” **If Jesus Christ had not been born to remove our sins, there would be no Christmas “Good News.” Never forget this!**