



Who is this King?

December
7
2025

Christmas Presence

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

Jesus Matthew 28:18

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11

Joseph's First Christmas

Matthew 1:18-21

¹⁸ This is how the **birth** of Jesus the **Messiah** came about: His mother Mary was **pledged to be married** to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ Because **Joseph her husband** was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to **divorce** her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name **Jesus**, because he will save his people from their sins."

"The virginal conception has regularly been understood as a way by which Jesus could be both fully human and fully divine. His father, in essence, was God, through the work of the Holy Spirit; his mother was the fully human woman, Mary.

As **fully God**, Jesus was able to pay the eternal penalty for our sins for which finite humanity could not atone.

As **fully human** he could be our adequate representative and substitutionary sacrifice."

~ Craig L. Blomberg

A Planned Pregnancy

Matthew 1:22-25

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The **virgin** will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him **Immanuel**" (which means "God with us"). ^{Isaiah 7:14}

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name **Jesus**.

"Matthew wants to emphasize that Jesus, as God, is 'with us'; deity is immanent. Too often those who have rightly contended for Jesus' full deity have created a God to whom they do not feel close, rather than one who became human in every way like them but without sin.

As God 'with us,' Jesus enables us to come boldly before God's throne when we accept the forgiveness of sins he made available and develop an intimate relationship with him."

~ Craig L. Blomberg

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Jesus Matthew 28:18-20