THE STORY The Birth of a King Matthew 1-2; Luke 1-2; John 1 Chapter 22 February 25, 2024 Pastor Mike Popovich

Throughout the entire Old Testament God wants a relationship with His people and they, in turn, worship other gods.

What do you think will be the result of worshiping a god that is not really there?

The New Testament opens with the birth of Jesus. An event that was planned.

THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND DWELT AMONG US

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning...¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:1, 14 NIV

John says the Word was God. The Word was made flesh.

THE WORD WHO IS GOD IS REVEALED IN JESUS CHRIST

In the beginning was the Word...

God created by the words He spoke.

Jesus, the second person of the trinity, completely God, is the face of God to the creation.

He is not $\frac{1}{2}$ man and $\frac{1}{2}$ God. He is fully God and fully man.

JESUS WAS BORN AS AN ORDINARY PERSON TO ORDINARY PEOPLE

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Luke 1:34-35 NIV

There was nothing exceptional about the birth and upbringing of Jesus.

The Christmas story is all about God delivering on His promise

1. God uses People

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. Matthew 1:18-20 NIV

God always uses people like Mary and Joseph to be part of the Story.

2. God has a Plan

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." Matthew 1:21 NIV

God has a plan to give a gift to every person. It is the gift of salvation.

3. God keeps His Promise

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"). Matthew 1:22-23 NIV

Jesus came as the explanation of God and the example of what it means to be a child of God.

It is never too late to invite Jesus into our lives.

Come in Jesus and make my heart your home.