

Matthew 1:18-25 The Gift of the Incarnation

What is the Incarnation?

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with Child from the Holy Spirit."- Matthew 1:18

The incarnation of Christ is the miraculous moment in history when God Himself stepped into time and space, and took flesh upon Himself. He never stopped being truly God for even one moment, never losing any Divine attribute.

- Two distinct natures (divine, human) without loss of attribute in either, eternally true of Christ.
- The incarnation is vitally important to the Christian Theology.
- If the incarnation never took place, then we have no hope in the death of Jesus, we have no hope in the resurrection of Jesus, we have no hope in the promised return of Jesus.

Incarnation from the Gospel's: Matthew:

- Joseph's perspective on the birth of Christ
- Begins with genealogy, then tells birth story.

Luke:

- Mary's perspective, the nativity scene.
- Background, very evident that he was a doctor, and great historian.

John:

- No birth story at all. Powerful statement on the humanity and Divinity of Christ:
- "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14)

The story of the incarnation:

- Joseph's perspective
- Betrothal custom

God's Divine Intervention:

"And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly."- Matthew 1:19

"But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit."- Matthew 1:20

"She will bear a Son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." - Matthew 1:21

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and they shall call His Name Immanuel" (which means, God with us)."- Matthew 1:22-23
The Miraculous Birth

"When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a Son. And he called His Name Jesus."-
Matthew 1:24-25

- Joseph acted on faith and married Mary.
- The Miraculous Circumstance
- Virgin Birth
- The Comfort from God
- The amazing prophetic completion
- The Miraculous Reality
- The Word, Eternal, Divine, God Himself, has taken up residence among us.
- All of this, because we had broken the relationship between ourselves and God.
- We sinned. Now, in the ultimate act of humility and love, Jesus has come. God with us.
- The Miraculous Hope
- The hope that we find in the incarnation of Christ doesn't stop with the birth of Christ
- It was affirmed through His sinless life, it was perfected in His substitutionary death, It was vindicated in His resurrection