

THE PROMISED PRINCE



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The Promised Prince...Who Saves Matthew 1:18-25

The Prince arrives in seemingly shameful circumstances.

Matthew 1:18 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. **19** And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.

A divine messenger announces the Prince's...

1. ... identity as the Son of David.

Matthew 1:20 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..."

2 Samuel 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

2. ... origin as the Son of God.

Matthew 1:20b "...for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit."

Luke 1:35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

3. ... mission to rescue the world from sin and death.

Matthew 1:21 "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

John 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

The Prince's coming fulfills the promise of God's saving presence.

Matthew 1:22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: **23** "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

Jesus' Birth Inaugurates the Promised New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:30 But everyone shall die for his own iniquity. Each man who eats sour grapes, his teeth shall be set on edge... **31** "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...**33** I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. **34** And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Reflection & Discussion

1. Compare the apparent shameful circumstances of Jesus' conception and birth with the reality of God's saving purpose. How does Jesus's birth parallel his seemingly shameful death?
2. In the circumstances of your life, past and present, how are you effected by the historical fact that in Christ, God is "with us"? How can you make this truth stay in the forefront of your mind?
3. In your life, what does it mean for you that God, through Jesus, has saved you from the deathly consequences of sin? What areas of your thinking still need to be transformed by truth of the gift?

SONGS

"ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY"

"O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL"

"KING OF KINGS"

"HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD"

Crossing Music Pastor: Dan Gillette (dan@vbc.online)

Behold Podcast: vbc.online/behold

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 20,566.06

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,985.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$1,581,636.99

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$1,775,280.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:
[Last Entry 11/20] \$ 104,984.74

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