

Immanuel

Matthew 1:18-25 ¹⁸This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged in marriage to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with Child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and was unwilling to disgrace her publicly, he resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But after he had pondered these things, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to embrace Mary as your wife, for the One conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³“Behold, the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel” (which means, “God with us”). ²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him, and embraced Mary as his wife. ²⁵But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a Son. And he gave Him the name Jesus. (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage in the light of it being the fulfillment of the prophecy of the birth of Immanuel.

A. **Marriage** was different then than it is now.

B. Mary became **supernaturally** pregnant. V. 18

C. Joseph did not want to have Mary **stoned** so he planned on ending the marriage quietly. V. 19

D. An Angel appeared to Joseph in a **dream** and counselled him that this was of God. V.20

E. The angel told Joseph to name Him **Jesus**. V.21

F. This unplanned pregnancy was a complete **fulfillment** of a prophecy from Isaiah 7.

G. Joseph did what he was instructed to do and **stayed** married to Mary. V.24-25

II. Why is all of this so important?

A. We know from the way that Jesus was treated by the religious leaders that something **unusual** happened involving His birth.

John 8: 41, 48

⁴¹You are doing the works of your [own] father.” They said to Him, “We are not illegitimate children; we have one [spiritual] Father: God.” (Amplified)

⁴⁸The Jews answered Him, “Are we not right when we say You are a Samaritan and [that You] have a demon [and are under its power]?” (Amplified)

B. We all have to decide who Jesus is to us. There is only a **narrow** road for the truth.

C. We must be willing to face **persecution** for lifting up Jesus Christ.

D. We must be willing to **reevaluate** our priorities to what God’s priorities are.