



MATTHEW 1:18–25

“Hark! the herald angels sing, ‘Glory to the newborn King: peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!’ Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with the angelic hosts proclaim, ‘Christ is born in Bethlehem!’ ... Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb: veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel. ... Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die, born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth ... Hark! The herald angels sing, ‘Glory to the newborn King.’” (Charles Wesley, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” 1739)

Introduction

- Matthew was an avid reader of the Old Testament, and his gospel contains _____ “fulfillment formulas” (Matthew 1:22, 2:15, 2:17, 2:23, 3:15, 4:14, 5:17, 8:17, 12:17, 13:35, 13:48, 21:4, 23:32, 26:54, 26:56).
- Only Matthew and Luke recount the conception and birth of Jesus (Matthew 1-2, Luke 1-2). Matthew tells the story from _____ perspective, while Luke tells the story from _____ perspective.

- Matthew and Luke agree that Mary was a _____ when Jesus was conceived and born (Matthew 1:18-25 ... Luke 1:26-38).
- In ancient Hebrew culture, being betrothed (engaged, pledged, espoused) involved a legally binding arrangement that could only be dissolved through a legal divorce (Deuteronomy 22:13-30, 24:1-4).

The Big Idea

- Jesus Christ was born to _____ his people from their _____.

The Person of Christ

- Jesus is truly _____ (Matthew 1:18, 1:21, 1:23, 1:25).
- Jesus is truly _____ (Matthew 1:23 ... Isaiah 7:14, 9:1-7).

“Whoever desires to be saved should above all hold to the catholic [universal] faith. Anyone who does not keep it whole and unbroken will doubtless perish eternally. Now this is the catholic [universal] faith: that we worship one God in Trinity and the Trinity in unity ... But it is necessary for eternal salvation that one also believe in the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ faithfully. Now this is the true faith: that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God’s Son, is both God and man, equally. He is God from the essence of the Father, begotten before time; and he is man from the essence of his mother, born in time; completely God, completely man, with a rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father as regards divinity, less than the Father as regards humanity. Although he is God and man, yet Christ is not two, but one. He is one, however, not by his divinity being turned into flesh, but by God’s taking humanity to himself. He is one, certainly not by the blending of his essence, but by the unity of his person. For just as one man is both rational soul and flesh, so too the one Christ is both God and man ...” (Athanasius of Alexandria, “The Athanasian Creed”)

The Work of Christ

- Jesus came to _____ the Old Testament (Matthew 1:22-23).
- Jesus came to _____ as the Son of David (Matthew 1:19).
- Jesus came to _____ on a cross for sinners (Matthew 1:21).

Application

- Am I one of Jesus’ _____? Am I a _____?
- Am I living for the _____ of Jesus Christ, the Savior-King?