



## And thou shalt call His Name JESUS!

December 22, 2019

### Holy Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 (focus on v21)

What interesting times we are living in. All around us we see a continually setting aside of anything that points us to the holiness of God...a falling away of the church from her biblical moorings...an overwhelming and subversive confusion within the culture, and sometimes an outright hostility towards the Word of Christ.

But have no fear my friends...

**Isaiah 9:6-7 (KJV)** *For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.*

### And our LORD did perform it! The prophets foretold His coming!

- **Micah 5:2 (KJV)** *But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.*
- **Isaiah 7:14 (KJV)** *Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*
- **Genesis 12:3 (KJV)** *And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*
- **Acts 3:25-26 (KJV)** *Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. 26 Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.*

### And came He did!

- **Luke 2:8-14 (KJV)** *And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*
- John the Baptist. **John 1:29 (KJV)** *The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*

- Paul. **1 Timothy 3:16 (KJV)** *And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.*
- "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." **1 Timothy 1:15 (KJV)**
- **Romans 3:23-26 (KJV)** *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **24** Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: **25** Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; **26** To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.*

**Oh Hallelujah! Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb! (Rev 7:10) "...Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing! (Rev 5:12)**

**And thou shalt call His Name JESUS...some thoughts on Matthew 1:18-25**

1. After Mathew's legal accounting of Jesus' right to the throne of David through the genealogy of Jesus through Joseph (essentially, the eternal King of Israel, something only the Messiah could accomplish), we read of our LORD's birth.
2. And it was a birth clouded in scandal! So much so that an angel had to intervene! (v20)
  - Mary was espoused or "betrothed" to Joseph when she "was found with child."
  - "Before they came together" means they weren't yet fully married and did not yet have marital relations.
  - "In NT times, betrothal was a form of engagement (but more binding than engagement today) and it could be broken only by divorce. Although an engaged couple did not live together until the marriage ceremony, unfaithfulness on the part of the betrothed was treated as adultery and punishable by death." -WM
  - This must have been a major scandal! They were both from a small town called Nazareth. Archaeologists estimate about 400 people. That means everyone new everyone!
  - Joseph is called a "just" man. This word in greek means both *equitable* and *righteous*. He was fair but desired holiness. Therefore he wanted to quietly divorce (or break the engagement with) Mary after she was found with Child.
  - Points to consider here:
    1. Be "just" like Joseph. Look to spare people, even those you believe have wronged you.
    2. Believe like Mary. Mary had done nothing wrong! And everything about Jesus' conception was Holy! Despite how it might look to others, be willing to say like Mary to Gabriel, "be it unto me according to thy word." (Luke 1:38)
    3. Be teachable. Joseph was acting according to holiness. But so was God! Joseph could not "conceive" of a situation where Mary wasn't wrong. As we grow in Christ, God might reveal something to us in Scripture we didn't see before! Be willing to adjust to the Word!
3. Friends, our LORD's conception is miraculous! Mary conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost! (v20)

- Being a holy woman, Mary needed this explained!
- **Luke 1:34-37 (KJV)** *Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. 36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.*

4. God became Man! We call this “the Incarnation.”

- Scripture says, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."* **John 1:1-2 (KJV)** *"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."* **John 1:14 (KJV)**
- Paul says concerning Jesus: *"Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* **Philippians 2:6-11 (KJV)**

5. He was named JESUS!

- In Bible times (and indeed in ancient cultures), names were significant...even prophetic. They often indicated who a person was or what they did or would do.

*Adonai - LORD, Master  
 El Shaddai - LORD God Almighty  
 Jehovah Nissi - The LORD my Banner  
 Jehovah Rapha - The LORD my Healer  
 Jehovah Jireh - The LORD will Provide  
 Jehovah Tisdkenu - The LORD our Righteousness  
 Jehovah Sabaoth - The LORD of Host*

- Jesus is *īēsous* in Greek.
- *īēsous* is the Greek transliteration (way of writing) the Hebrew name *Yeshua* or *Yehoshua*.
- The English spelling of *Yeshua* is “Joshua” and the English spelling of *īēsous* is “Jesus.”
- Jesus (Joshua in Hebrew) literally means “Jehovah is Salvation.”
- God Himself showed up to “save His people!”

*Immanuel  
 Redeemer  
 Mediator  
 Our Hope  
 Our Peace*

The Resurrection and the Life  
The Door  
The Way, the Truth and the Life  
Our Advocate  
Chief Cornerstone  
Good Shepherd  
Head of the Church  
I Am!

6. Saved from what? From the wrath of God due to sin!

- **1 John 3:4 (KJV)** *Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*
- **James 2:10 (KJV)** *For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*
- **Romans 3:23 (KJV)** *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
- **Romans 5:12 (KJV)** *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*
- **Romans 6:23 (KJV)** *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*
- **Romans 1:18 (KJV)** *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*
- **Galatians 3:22 (KJV)** *But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.*
- Pastor Darrell Harrison said:

*Sin has been \*the\* root cause of \*every\* ill from which our world suffers since Eve and Adam disobeyed God in the garden (Genesis 3:1-24). It is sin, in all its various and devastating manifestations and effects, that is \*the\* fundamental problem with the world today.*

*Sin is \*the\* problem. The heart is the seat of sin. The heart is where sin dwells, it is where sin devises and concocts the unjust schemes and devices that have divided, and continue to divide, God's people. Sin is the problem. Jesus is the only solution to that problem.*

*May this be the Christmas season that the evangelical church recommits itself to preaching the Jesus of Matthew 1:21, the Jesus who came into this evil and ungodly world of His own volition to "save His people from their sins."*

7. Who are His people?

- His people are those who are saved by grace and through faith!

**John 5:24 (KJV)** *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*

***John 6:40 (KJV)** And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.*

***Romans 5:1-2 (KJV)** Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: **2** By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*

***Romans 10:9-11 (KJV)** That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **10** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. **11** For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.*

***Ephesians 2:8 (KJV)** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*

### **Final thoughts**

*Jesus Christ, the Son of God and God the Son, came to this earth through the virgin Mary, revealed the truths of God, lived the perfect life in our place, died on the cross to pay the penalty of sin that we might be brought into relationship with God. He rose again on the third day, and gives eternal life to those He has called, who believe in Him by His grace and through faith. Those who reject Him will spend eternity apart from Him in Hell. At a future date, He will return to complete the restoration of God's creation.*

Are you one of "His people?" Have you repented from sin and turned to the living God by faith? Are you counted among the lost or the found, the sheep or the goats, the living or the dead? Will you receive the end of your faith...the salvation of your soul?

Finally...

- When you think of the manger, think upon the mercy of God in sending His Son.
- When you think of the shepherds, think of the Good Shepherd who gave His life for the sheep.
- When you think of the stable, think of the *staturus* ("Cross" in Greek). Jesus was not only born in humility, but suffered and died that way as well.
- When you think of the angels that announced His birth, be reminded that He'll one day send those angels to gather His elect.
- When you think of the precious gifts He was given (gold, and frankincense, and myrrh), ask yourself, have I given up all for Christ?
- When you think of His birth, remember WHY He came.

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come, let earth receive her king. Let every heart prepare Him room and Heaven and nature sing. Joy to the world! The savior reigns, let men their songs employ! While and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy! He rules the world, with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove, the glories of His righteousness and wonders of his love!**

**Merry Christmas!**

1. What did you learn today?

2. How has your perspective changed?
3. What can you immediately obey?
4. What do you want your children to know from this message?
5. What did you hear that you must share with others?