

THE STORY

FINDING YOUR STORY IN GOD'S STORY

The Birth of the King (A Scandalous Birth)

The Story—the Gospels, part 1

Matthew 1; Luke 2

March 12, 2017

Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

WHAT ABOUT MARY?

Luke 1:26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee,

²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be.

³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God.

³¹ You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.



³² *He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.*

The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David,

³³ *and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."*

³⁴ *"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"*

³⁵ *The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.*

³⁶ *Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month.*

³⁷ *For nothing is impossible with God."*

³⁸ *"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.*

WHAT ABOUT JOSEPH?

What was a scandal to Joseph was a to God.

Matthew 1:20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 1:21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Psalms 51:5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will



call him Immanuel.

Matthew 1:22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "God with us."

THE REST OF THE STORY

Luke 2:1 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.

² *(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)*

⁵ *And everyone went to his own town to register.*

Luke 2:4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

⁵ *He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.*

⁶ *While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

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