

The Virgin Birth Matthew 1:18-25

INTRODUCTION

Please turn in your Bible to **Matthew 1:18-25**. Matthew 1:1-17 records the genealogy of Jesus through forty-two generations, tracing his ancestors back to Abraham and David. The genealogy takes a strange turn at the birth of Jesus. The pattern is that one man begat another man who begat another man. Then verse 16 says: ***“and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.”*** **Jacob is called the father of Joseph. But Joseph is called the husband of Mary who was the mother of Jesus.** Matthew 1:18-25 teaches that the virgin birth matters...the virgin birth of Jesus Christ is essential to the Christian faith.

I. The _____ (1:18-19)

A. Mary's _____ (1:18)

B. Joseph's _____ (1:19)

1. Joseph was a man of _____

2. Joseph was a man of _____

II. The angelic _____ (1:20-21)

A. The truth about _____ (1:20)

B. The truth about _____ (1:21)

III. _____ becomes _____ (1:22-23)

A. The virgin birth of Jesus _____ divine
_____ (1:22)

B. The virgin birth of Jesus _____
us that the Lord has drawn _____ (1:23)

IV. _____ acting in _____
results in a _____ (1:24-25)

A large cast of characters converges at the birth of Jesus. Mary the mother of Jesus is rightly honored. The angelic messengers are hard to ignore. But Joseph is the forgotten man of Christmas. **The shepherds, wise men, and innkeeper get more attention than Joseph.** He deserves better. **Joseph is a profound example of what it means to trust and obey God.**

Because of Joseph's obedient faith, two things **happen**:

- **Mary becomes his _____ wife (1:24)**

- **Jesus becomes his _____ son (1:25)**

CONCLUSION/INVITATION

Why is the virgin birth important?

1. The virgin birth highlights the _____
character of Jesus and the gospel.

The virgin birth is posted on guard at the door of the mystery of Christmas; and none of us must think of hurrying past it. It stands on the threshold of the New Testament, blatantly supernatural, defying our rationalism, informing us that all that follows belongs to the same order as itself and that if we find it offensive there is no point in proceeding further. If our faith staggers at the virgin birth, what is it going to make of the feeding of the five thousand, the stilling of the tempest, the raising of Lazarus, the transfiguration, and the resurrection.

2. The virgin birth is a sign of God's _____
on human nature.

3. The virgin birth is a _____ that Jesus Christ
is a _____.

Salvation depends upon personally receiving the gift of eternal life which God offers to you through His eternal Son who took on human flesh through the virgin Mary on that first Christmas, who offered Himself as the substitute for sinners on the cross. **If God is truly with us in Christ, then we must come to God only through Christ.**