

MESSAGE NOTES**SCRIPTURE PASSAGE**

2019 Christmas Devotional –
The Gospel is Better

Christmas Sermon series:
Come, Thou long expected Jesus

Today's message:
*The birth of Jesus, the Savior,
God with us*

This week: Matthew 1:18-25

The birth of the Messiah 1:18a

What's the Messiah?
What's that matter?

The role of Mary 1:18

The role of Joseph 1:19-21

Joseph as a type of Christ

The role of the prophet 1:22-23

What was Isaiah's message?

Jesus is born 1:24-25

The role of Jesus 1:21-22

He saves people from their sins
He is God with us

Come, Thou long expected Jesus

Matthew 1:18-25 ¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 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. 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." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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The Gospel Is Better

FALSE IDOLS AND
THEIR FALSE PROMISES

<http://bit.ly/hopeadventdevo>



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A CHRISTMAS SERMON SERIES

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hopecc.com/slides & hopecc.com/notes

Matthew 1:18–25

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The birth of Jesus, the Savior, God with us

Jesus the Messiah

Matthew 1:18a

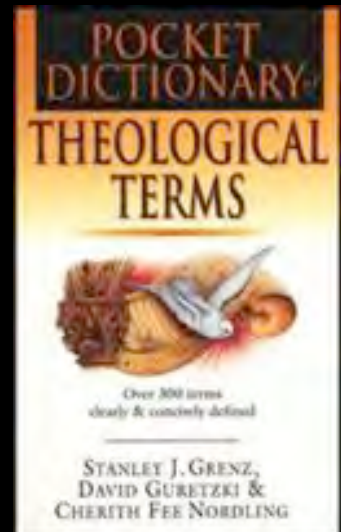
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What's the Messiah?

And what's that matter?

Messiah (Greek *Christos*; Christ). A Hebrew term meaning “anointed one.” The Old Testament people of God came to anticipate a person anointed by the Spirit who would function once again as king and priest over Israel. Hence in Jewish (OT and intertestamental) theology, the Messiah was the person, whether supernatural or earthly, endowed with special powers and functions by God, who would appear as the divinely appointed, eschatological [final] deliverer and ruler of Israel.

Grenz, S., Guretzki, D., & Nordling, C. F. (1999). In *Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms* (p. 77). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.



The birth of Jesus, the Savior, God with us

The role of Mary

Matthew 1:18

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 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. 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.”

In Israel, there were three stages to getting married. There was the engagement, often arranged while the couple concerned were still children. This was followed by the betrothal, a confirmation of the engagement (and then marriage). During the twelve-month period of betrothal, the couple enjoyed the status of marriage without the rights of marriage. They might or might not be allowed any periods alone together. Breaking a betrothal was a serious business and was considered a divorce.

Kapolyo, Joe M. Zambian. Former Principal of the Theological College of Central Africa, Zambia, and Principal of All Nations Christian College, England. Former Lead Minister at Edmonton Baptist Church in North London, England.

Adeyemo, T. (2006). Africa Bible commentary (p. 1135). Nairobi, Kenya; Grand Rapids, MI: WordAlive Publishers; Zondervan.



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The role of Joseph Matthew 1:19

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 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. 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.”

The way that Matthew writes about Joseph here resembles what Christ would later be like but on greater levels...The shame Joseph intended to save Mary from here was humiliation over sin, shame over sin and the consequences for sin as well...He wants to save her from that. He wants to make it so these “sins” are essentially forgotten and people aren’t aware of them. Mary’s protected from the consequences of them. It’s the exact same thing with Jesus but on a higher level. In Romans 10:11, it says, “Anyone who believes in him [Jesus] will never be put to shame.” ...What Joseph is embodying here by essentially being a sin-hiding, shame-detering husband is typifying what Christ is like. We should see that our Savior is like this. This is what he has done. This is what he has made possible through his death and resurrection...Jesus is a better Joseph.

Chris Wachter, Hiawatha Church



Colossians 2:13–15

¹³ And you, who were dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our sins, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

The birth of Jesus, the Savior, God with us

The role of the angel

Matthew 1:20-21

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The role of the prophet Isaiah

Matthew 1:22-23

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What was Isaiah's message as heard in the advent (the coming) of Jesus?

[Mt. 4:15-16](#) "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea,
beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles —

¹⁶ the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of
the shadow of death a light has dawned." See Isaiah 9:1-2

[Matthew 11:5](#) The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy
are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. See
[Isaiah 61:1](#)

[Mt. 12:18](#) "Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom
I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations. See [Isaiah 42:1](#)

[Mt. 12:21](#) In his name the nations will put their hope." See [Isaiah 42:4](#)

[Mt. 8:17](#) This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:
"He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases." See Isaiah 53:4

The birth of Jesus, the Savior, God with us

Jesus is born Matthew 1:24-25

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The role of Jesus

Matthew 1:21-22

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. ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).



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Possible responses to the LORD

Remember and celebrate Jesus in his death through communion

Respond with giving (hopecc.com/give or boxes in the back)

Take time for individual prayer

Worship the LORD through song