

MIRACLES, CHRISTMAS, & YOU!

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 1:19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily.

Matthew 1:20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Matthew 1:22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

Matthew 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Matthew 1:24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

Matthew 1:25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

Miracles are central to the Christmas story...

But what about us?

- **Do we live in the miraculous?**
- **Get our miracle?**
- **Have a yearlong course on miracles?**
- **Live in the supernatural?**
- **Live in the prophetic?**

Psalm 65:2

**O thou that hearest prayer,
Unto thee shall all flesh come.**

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Facts:

1. There were miracles!

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**To believe God is to believe in miracles!
God is the creator, the sustainer, the Judge, & the
Re-creator...so yes, miracles!**

➤ Virgin conception & virgin birth

**➤ Dreams (1:20,2:12,13,19,22; [27:19]) 6x in
Matthew**

➤ **Prophecies (1:22-23, 2:5,6,15,17,18,23)**

➤ **Angels (1:20,24, 2:13,19)**

➤ **Stars (2:2,7,9,10)**

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2. Miracles **no one sought!**

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Mary
Joseph
The Wise Men | Magoi | Magi

No one **took a course** on miracles
Not one **demande**d their miracle
No one **expected** a miracle
No passages tell us how to get our miracle

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Matthew 2:5 And they said unto him, In Beth-lehem of Judaea: **for thus it is written by the prophet,**

Matthew 2:6 And thou Beth-lehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

Matthew 2:14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

Matthew 2:15 And was there until the death of Herod: **that it might be fulfilled** which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

Matthew 2:17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,

Matthew 2:18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

Matthew 2:23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: **that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.**

3. Miracles in service of Salvation & Prophecy!

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This was an **absolutely unique** situation:

- Sui generis
- One off
- One out of one
- One of a kind

And these will **not** be repeated any more than creation, parting of the red sea, rapture, 2nd coming and beginning of the millennium.

3 eras of miracles = 3 eras of new revelation:
Moses & Joshua

Elijah & Elisha

Jesus & the Apostles

John 14:15 If ye love me, **keep** my commandments.
Psalms 119:60 I made haste, and delayed not To keep thy commandments.

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4. Miracles to be **obeyed!**

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Joseph's miracles:

Marry her → don't "divorce" her

Name Him Jesus

Wait for intimacy until...

Matthew 2:12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country **another way.**

Wise Men's miracles:

- **Seek Him**
- **Worship Him**
- **Don't go back to Herod**
- **Go home **another** way**

Matthew 2:13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, **Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.**

Matthew 2:14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother **by night**, and departed into Egypt:

Matthew 2:15 And was there **until the death of Herod**: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

Joseph's Dream:

- **Flee from Israel to Egypt**
- **Flee with the family**
- **Flee... so tonight / in the night!**
- **Stay until Herod is dead**

But Pastor...

I want to be like Abraham!!!

Genesis 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, **and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.**

“A long obedience in the same direction!”

5. **Our** miracles will **always look like** mercy / mercies...& grace!

Matthew 9:27 And when Jesus departed thence, **two blind men** followed him, **crying, and saying, Thou Son of David, have mercy on us.**

Matthew 15:22 And, behold, **a woman of Canaan** came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, **Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.**

Matthew 17:15 **Lord, have mercy on my son:** for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.

Matthew 20:30 And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, **Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David.**

Matthew 20:31 And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, **Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David.**