A Non-Hallmark Christmas Story

12/15/2024 – MATTHEW 1:18-25 EMMANUEL CHINESE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



The Christmas Story Drawn directly from the Bible

Three Ingredients

- The real Christmas story is a result of a miracle
- The real Christmas story is a result of faithfulness
- The real Christmas story is a result of a name

Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

The Real Christmas Story Is A Result Of A Miracle

Miracle:

"a surprising and welcome event that is not explicable by natural or scientific laws and is therefore considered to be the work of a divine agency."

"18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit."

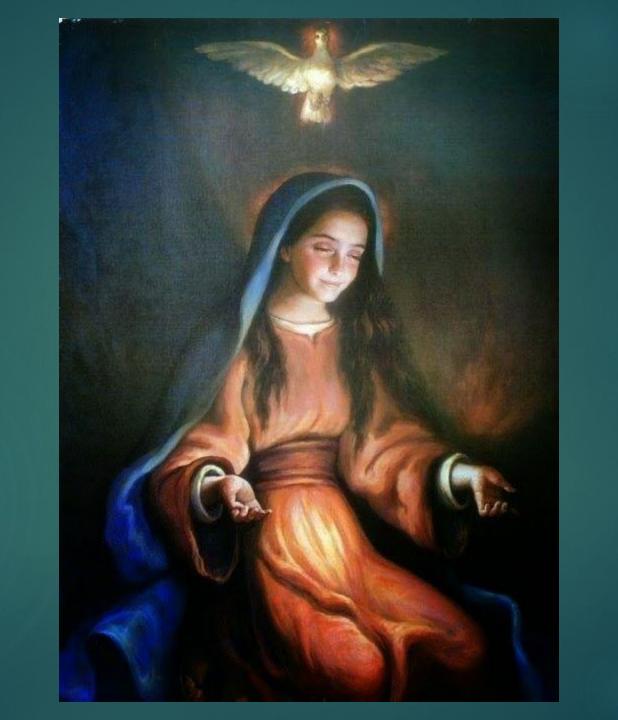
Luke 1:34-35

34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

Matt. 17:5 He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

Mark 9:7 And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son, listen to him."

Luke 9:34 As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud.



100% GOD 100% MAN

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

The Real Christmas Story Is A Result Of Faithfulness



19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly

20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with US).

Matthew 1:1-2,16

1The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, ... 16 and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.

20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with US).

Isaiah 7:14

14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Ezekiel 34:11-12

"11 "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness."

"24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus."



The Real Christmas Story Is A Result Of A Name

Jesus -> Yeshua -> "to save"

Immanuel -> "God with us"

John 3:16

"16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

God is with us and he saves us because he loves us

God is with me and he saves me because he loves me

Jesus -> Yeshua -> "to save"

Immanuel -> "God with us"

God is with us and he saves us because he loves us

God is with me and he saves me because he loves me

CONCLUSION

EMMANUEL

Fod With Us at Christmas
- and Always