

## **The Virgin Conception – God Becomes a Man (Matthew 1:18-25)**

- Matthew describes the birth of Jesus so that it foreshadows the rest of His life
- v18 describes miraculous virgin conception of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit
- Matthew's account: more than the birth of Jesus, he describes Jesus' origins: so all may know the origin & conception of this virgin-born child named Jesus
- Through Joseph, Jesus is counted - son of David (2 Sam 7:11-16; Jer 23:5-6)

### **I. Conceived By the Holy Spirit(1:18-20)**

- Mary and Joseph are betrothed to one another, not married – v18
- Betrothal (engagement) as serious & binding as if they had been married: v.19
- Mary was pregnant though Joseph had not been with her, he had to act: v.19
- Joseph wanted to put her away (divorce her) but he wanted to act in mercy
- The angel intervenes and explains to Joseph what had taken place v.20
- Because the baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Joseph can marry Mary
- Church tradition: virgin birth. Gospel stresses: miraculous/virgin conception

### **II. The Name of the Child and God's Appointed Mission for Him (1:21-23)**

- Vs 21 – God tells Joseph, the child is a boy and that Jesus must be His name
- The name Jesus means that the “Lord delivers”- the Lord saves & delivers
- The enemy Jesus saves & delivers His people from: the great enemy “our sin”
- The advent of Jesus brings to culmination God's saving plan from old v.22,23

### **III. Joseph and the Birth of Jesus, Our Immanuel (1:24-25)**

- When the angel had finished, Joseph awoke & believed all that was said v.24
- To make the miraculous conception clear, Joseph & Mary had no union v.25
- Joseph took the new born baby & named Him Jesus – picture of tender faith