

God With Us to Save Us

2023.09.03 Morning Sermon in Matthew 1:18–28

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” 22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

Main idea: In order for Jesus to save His people from His sins, He had to be a perfectly righteous man and a divine Person.

Introduction: the book of the King continues to introduce us to the King.

1. The necessity of Jesus’s godly parents

a. A just man

- i. Not wanting to make an example. Others ahead of self, even when hurt. Like his namesake. Like his adopted Son.
- ii. Yet desiring a godly wife/mother for his household.
- iii. A careful, thinking man.
- iv. A Bible man to understand, a kingdom man to care, and an obedient man to act.

b. Each in their own role

- i. She will bring forth. Bearing, nurturing, rearing.
- ii. You will call His name. Leadership, headship. The humility of Christ, but also the necessary obedience of Joseph.

- iii. He will save His people from their sins. Only one Child ever had such a calling. And His saving us elevates every child's calling. Each child has a calling.
- c. How much rests upon parents for their children!

2. The necessity of Jesus's Holy-Spirit-conception

- a. The evangelist's explanation of the prophet's sign all the way from Isaiah 7:10–15. One fulfillment that took three years, one that took 700 years.
- b. The great fulfillment of Isaiah 8:12–15. YHWH Himself the only sanctuary, but also a stone of stumbling and rock of offense.
- c. It is more important on account of Him, even than on account of us, that He be conceived by the Holy Spirit. Things were exactly opposite what Joseph had feared! He needed the command not to fear even more after the angel than before.

3. The necessity of Jesus's divine personhood

- a. What did they call His Name? Jesus or Immanuel? The point is that they are the same.
- b. He is not just how the Lord saves. He is the Lord Himself, and He saves.
- c. She brings forth. Joseph calls the name. Jesus will always fulfill His end.

Conclusion: the role that matters most in your life isn't even your own. It is Christ's. Yield to His role as Savior and trust only in Him. Yield to His role as God and worship Him. Yield to His role as King by devoting yourself, in whatever your role is, to His service.

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

These are the words of god. And so let us Hear them after a manner. That offers the very hearing as worship. Now, the birth of jesus christ was as follows. After his mother, Mary was betrothed to joseph. Before they came together. She was found with child. Of the holy spirit.

Then Joseph, her husband. Being a just man. And not wanting to make her a public example. Was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, Behold. An angel of the lord appeared to him in a dream saying Joseph Son of David. Do not be afraid to take to you.

Marry your wife? For that, which is conceived in her is of The Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a son. And you shall call his name, Jesus. For, he will save his people. From their sins.

So, all this was done. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the lord, through the prophet saying. Behold. The virgin shall be with child. And bear a son. And they shall call his name Emmanuel. Which is translated. God with Us. Then Joseph being aroused from sleep. Did as the angel of the lord commanded him.

And, Took to him, his wife. And, Did not know her. Till she had brought forth. Her firstborn son. And he called his name. Jesus. Amen. The sense this reading of gods, Inspired. And errant. Authoritative. Sufficient. Worked. Please be seated.

We began last week, the book of the king. The book of what came of Jesus Christ is The true Adam. From whom comes the line of the sons of God. He is the one whom we were looking for. From Genesis 5. He is the true David. He is the true Abraham.

Indeed, he is the king of kings and the lord of lords. Well, the time the book of the king finishes We find that all authority in heaven. And on earth belongs to him. That when you are baptized into him, the name that has put upon you. Is the name of the triune God.

Because he is God the son. The second person. Of the Godhead. And that he has come yes to be a king who delivers and saves. But also a king who rules. A king who has. A way of life that belongs to his subjects. Because they follow the orders of the king.

Independence, upon the life. Of the king. The keep all that. He has commanded. By virtue of his being with them, Always. This is where the book of the king is going. And in our passage, before us today, these eight verses Continue to introduce the king to us. It in this passage introduces the king to us by virtue of three necessities Three things that had to be true.

About the lord Jesus Christ. One of you in this room asked me on Monday afternoon. Did God have to die? Did God have to die? It's always a delight when you get to tell a three-year-old and a five-year-old about absolute consequent necessity. Of. Perhaps some even who have been into seminary.

Have not heard such important and good words. The answer is yes, God had to die. But it was because God had committed to save. God did not have to save. We know that because he does not give help to the angels, who fell? But he committed himself to save and he made the promise that had begun within himself.

You remember from Titus, God made a promise before time began. And so, the promise doesn't made to Abraham for the first time or even implied to Adam and his wife, when he curses the serpent, We refer to Genesis 3:15 as the first gospel, the proto evangelion, but the Holy Spirit tells us, doesn't he that God promised this before time began?

And because God had planned to save. From before time began. It was absolutely necessary as a consequence. Of that intention to save sinners. That God would have to die. Because we have sinned against his glory. And the wrath of God is revealed against all unrighteousness and ungodliness of men, who although they knew him as God did not glorify him.

And so we have fallen short of that, which is required of us, the knowledge and response and reflection of the glory of god. And who can propitiate this wrath? That is as big as God's glory. Dear children. Who by the grace of the holy spirit, we pray are better theologians than many who ascend pulpits in the church.

Who can be a sacrifice for sin? That is as big as the glory of god who is as big as the glory of god kids. Only God. Only God. And so god. Had. To die.

And so, in these Versus before us, as Matthew by the holy spirit continues to introduce us to the king. He introduces Jesus to us. By three necessities. Three necessities in this passage. Two of which. You have probably considered more than others, and they are number two, and number three, but one that was also necessary.

The first one is the necessity. Of his godly parents. The necessity of his godly parents. And the second place is introduced to us in this passage by the necessity of his holy spirit conception. The necessity of Jesus's. Holy spirit conception. And third. The one that we have already mentioned, The necessity of his divine personhood.

The necessity of Jesus's divine. Personhood. Not merely that he would have a divine nature. But that the one who is our Christ. When his human nature? Would be a divine. Person. And so, in the first place, The necessity of his godly parents. Now, the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows.

After his mother. Mary. Was betrothed to Joseph. Before they came together. She was found with child. Of the holy spirit. Then Joseph, her husband being Adjust man. Now, there are Many reasons. Why it is good for a child? To have a father and a mother. And not just a father and a mother at home, and not just a family that Functions as a family for at least half an hour, a day over a meal together.

But a father who leads in the home, A father who is responsible for the home. Who makes decisions that ensure that wife and children and the rest of the household? However, they are attached to that family. Will be acting in obedience to god. Following god's word. And a mother who bears and nurtures.

To submits to the father and the husband and leads the children and the rest of the household in. Way of submission and to attends to everything that the husband can act. Because it is not good for him to be alone and he needs one who is equally in the image of god, equally committed to the display of the glory of god, equally committed to the management of all of creation as belonging to god for his glory and given to man for his good.

One of the great reasons. That a child needs, godly parents is because there are many things, That just aren't up to the child.

Luke tells us that Jesus grew and wisdom and stature and favor with god. And with men, This is important because he entered the world as an embryo. Jesus has already incarnate. By the end of verse 18,

He entered the world as an embryo. And Mary brought him forth as a baby. His required to attend the holy convocation, the Assembly of those, whom the lord has set apart as saints to himself. Every single sabbath. He is required as the firstborn, which If you don't have one of those, Critical text-based translations.

You can see there in verse 25 and draw she Brought forth her firstborn son. There are things that are required of him as a firstborn son. There are things that are required of him in the ceremonial law. That continues at this time. There are his required. Of course, to be circumcised on the eighth day.

There are so many things required of him that he cannot do. He has a sinless heart. Away in the manger is actually partially true. He did cry. Many people criticize it. For saying no crying. He makes, of course he cried Will not. Advocating for singing away in the manger.

But he didn't cry the way our babies cried. He didn't cry in selfishness. He didn't cry and demand. That the whole rest of the world stop. And obey him although he's the one baby who had that, right?

He cried. As communication. Because as we grow in wisdom, we learn Language, more words. So, his crying was always different. Yeah, it's God forgive us at some comfort when you have a sinful baby that's crying and you know that part of the frustration is that baby is a sinner too.

As a parent you feel like it's all your fault and you're frustrated. Well, when Jesus Christ, All those frustration was on Jesus and Mary's side, sorry, Joseph and Mary's side. It was all their fault. If there wasn't understanding

But a baby depends. In great deal. Upon their parents and your, and my salvation. Depends upon Jesus, keeping the law of God. If God did not give. His son choose for his son. The family where Joseph is the father, and Mary is the mother and the decisions that are made for the household are decisions of righteousness, you and I perish in our sins.

Instrumentally speaking. One of the things has. American even chemical. Uh, church society. Has gotten away. From a covenantal understanding of the home, and a strong doctrine of the providence of God. And deciding, which parents, he will give to which children, and which children, he'll give to, which parents And assigning a child.

The status of saint. By putting that child in the womb of a Christian mother. In the household of a Christian father. We don't come and see things like, There are obediences that are required of our children. That. Even if they were sinless, they could not do except that. We led them in that.

That we did that for them. And this isn't just, this isn't just true of babies. Now, it's your responsibility kits. When mom and dad bring you to church, That when we read the word of God, you listen to it and you pay attention, and you listen to it as the word of God.

God is breathing. These words that are on the pages out to me, I must believe what it teaches. I must do what it commands when it tells me about what he is, like, I praise him. I must praise him for what he is. Like When it tells me what he threatens, I must cry out to him that by Jesus's righteousness and sacrifice.

I would not do the things that deserve such punishment and I would not receive the punishment that I deserve. That when he promises you blessing that you would listen to the word of God and that you would believe. Not only that God is. But that because of his love and the Christ whom he has given and that love that he is a rewarder of those who seek him.

It is required of you. Dear children that when we sing the word of God, You sing what we sing in church, knowing that it is Jesus, who sings that word in the mixed of his brethren, And that he gives you to sing his word because he is making his word to penetrate your heart to lay hold of your heart so that it dwells in you richly.

And so you sing with all your heart and you sing with all your voice, and you sing into the praise of god, and the good not only of yourself, but to your brothers and sisters in the congregation the one time. That you get to prophesy as you admonish one another And the various types of songs that god has given in his word.

It is required of you and we pray. To offer up your mind and heart to god. To depend upon god the holy spirit to help you overcome that fleshliness, that says, prayer time is nap time. Or at least brain, relaxing time. But that you agree with the prayers that you hear from the word of god and god, helping those who lead you in prayer, that it be.

So according to his word, that as you grow in knowing the bible, you you begin to know the parts of the bible that you are being led from. And, you know, jesus has put these words and you by his spirit, jesus has given you these things to pray. Jesus has given you these groanings these desires for the work of god to be done and the sons of god to be revealed and the whole creation to be released into the glorious freedom.

The liberty of the children of god that comes at resurrection day and all of our praying And you agree with that in your heart. So it's not just one man, praying. While a several dozen sleep. But it is the people of god calling upon his name together. You're responsible for all those things.

Would, you know? If your mom and dad don't bring you to church, you can't do any of those things, can you If your mom and dad are not committed to the idea, That the only one who can keep you from coming to church is god. That you're determination. Is that on his day when his people are assembled by his command, you are going to be there unless god himself stops you.

Not the government. Not the vacation. Not the irresponsible use of the night before. That has left you. In a condition in which you're not just physically degraded, but mentally disposed against god and against the gathering for the worship. But god's tops. You god stops you by illness or injury.

Or whatever. Providential hindrance there is and then you're like the psalmist and psalm 42 and 43. Having to overcome your distress, not being able to gather by the very truth that you will get to worship him again.

But if you don't grow up in a house, where dad has that commitment, Then you miss church sometimes for reasons.

Other than that, God stopped you.

If jesus. If jesus did not keep. God's law, then we would be dead in our sins. You see how much is a? The important says of Joseph here,

Well, what does the bible? Tell us about joseph? And mary. And jesus, then. As he is introduced here by the necessity of his godly parents. Tells us that Joseph is a just man. A righteous man. Especially in this case in his relation to others, we just saw this word in Titus chapter 1 and the readings.

Um, That he is just holy and self-controlled. The elder is In Titus chapter 1. That is, he is just and equitable, fair, and right in his dealings with men. He's just He is. Holy. That is he responds? Rightly to god? He is a in every good sense of the word, a pious man and he is self-controlled.

He responds rightly to himself. So what we heard Uh, believe it was last week. No, this week just now. In fact. And told us chapter 1. Uh, But here Joseph is adjustment. What does that mean? Well, it means in part. That he places others ahead of himself, even when he is hurt, even when he is the injured party, even when he is sinned against.

Here Joseph is a just man his, the sort of, man in whom God has graciously, worked by his holy spirit that he would be the adoptive earthly, father of the Lord Jesus Christ and lead his family with such uprightness that the outward keeping of God's word. And the home would match the inward perfection of the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ, in his own human soul.

And part of that meant that. When he discovered, so he thought That Mary was not fit to be. The leader in righteousness of the household. Under Joseph. And the mother. Who would rear his children? And Joseph would have children with Mary. And two of them would write books of the Bible.

Having been saved by grace to come from criticizing Jesus Christ to introducing. Each of them their their book and scripture as slaves of the of the brother that I had formerly resented but now worshiped as God and trusted in his savior. And Joseph thought that he had discovered that Mary was not.

The woman to be the mother of his children. And yet in this disappointment and this injury of whom was, he primarily thinking it was thinking of her He was thinking about guarding her name. He was hoping we dare say, That she would be brought to repentance. And that she would be still useful.

Not as his wife, he couldn't marry her. Now, he didn't think At least until the Lord helped him. And instructed, him informed him. What was actually happening? But he didn't want to make public example of her.

That God would work. In all of us. In your children from an early age. These are, these are habits of heart and mind that are That. You want established early by grace? We would not be vindictive and bitter and self-interested. But oh that God would give us especially men like this.

Husbands like this fathers like this. Who exercised such leadership in the home that even when they are sinned against. They are not responding out of their being wounded. But they are still thinking first of the good of their life of the good of their children.

This was part of his. Justness. And it is part of his justness that he wanted to put her away. Because he did wish to have a godly wife and a godly mother. For a godly wife for himself and a godly mother for his children. Who makes his marriage decisions that way.

As part of being an upright, man. You young men. That you would not be the young man of Genesis 6. Who see that the unbelieving daughters. The daughters who are not theologically and morally aligned with you. Are beautiful. That you're not take from the wrong daughters. According to the wrong criteria, they're outward.

Fading beauty. In the wrong procedure choosing as a wife for yourself, whomever you choose. As if your will is the most important thing. It is part of the uprightness of a man. That he'd be thinking of what sort of wife he the the woman will be to him to help him honor God and serve God with all his life what sort of mother she will be to the children that he hopes to have.

And that she be from among the saints. And that should be. A chosen according to her godliness and That she be chosen with help. And what better help is there than an angel of the Lord appearing to you and telling you which one to take as your wife, you won't get that help.

But god has given you hasn't he Your elders, he's given you, your parents, he has given you wise people in the churches. That you would not just take whomever you choose. So, we see his godliness and not wanting to make an example of her. We see his godliness in the sort of wife that he wants and that tips the scale entirely in her favor in the course of a couple verses, doesn't it?

Praise god. That brings us to the third part that we see of his galleriness here. He's a careful and thinking, man. He considers what is right? He has the these these righteous responses and yet he doesn't take his action immediately Verse 20 but while he thought about these things, Many of us would have been saved a rash word, a hostile action of foolish decision, the that harmed a relationship or destroyed an opportunity or did some damage to ourselves or to our family to our neighbor community.

Our employer. So forth, if we would just have been more thinking If we had taken time to consider and think about the decisions that we were making, In this case, Joseph. Doesn't immediately put her away secretly as he's minded to do. You see there at the end of verse 19, but he thinks about these things and the lord uses this godly character that he has given Joseph.

Providentially to give him opportunity to be visited by an angel, who informs him of what is actually true. And many of us have had this experience Were troubled about something and we're we we have an idea of what would be right based upon the data that we have? And god in his mercy by giving us a moment to exercise some patience and considerate uses that providentially to bring you data.

And the difficulty of the decision gets resolved, not by more wisdom, but by more information. Oh, dear children. Especially you young men because so much lies upon you and we see that here in this passage The lord grant that you would not be a rash decision maker of quick to someone who's quick to speak, someone who's quick to become angry but that you would be someone who as we're going to be studying soon, the idea or the The skill and the habit of christian meditation, taking hold of the, the inner life of the thoughts in your mind by use of the bible by use of that, which god gives you from his word.

So that you would be someone who thinks about things.

He's a careful in thinking, man. In the fourth place, Joseph was A bible, man. So that he would understand. What the angel is saying when he says Joseph son of david? Well, didn't we just read that? His daddy's name was jacob. Yes. But he is from the line of david.

And he knows what son of david means from the bible. He is in the line of the christ. And, The christ is coming. Through his family. Not from him. He's already painfully aware that the baby that is in Mary is not from him, but still under him and led by him.

Represented by him. When the angel says, joseph son of david. What he's saying is Joseph this difficult decision that you have to make this difficult situation that you're in. There are great kingdom, reality, that are at stake. This is about more than just what happens with married personally and what happens with you personally?

This is about the bringing of the christ into the world. This is about the kingdom of god coming. This is about the saving of people from their sins.

Now that's true, of course to a lesser extent. So, every one of us, Who are united to christ. That the lord is building his church. The lord is building his church. As he brings those from the outside in the lord is building his church as he adds children to believers.

We believe in infant dedications. We believe god dedicates them to himself by putting them in the womb of a christian mother. And we respond. To god's dedicating, the infant to himself. By putting the sign that he commands upon the infant that he is dedicated to himself. But we also respond.

By living the life that he commands. With the infant, who is unable to do. So, For himself. And for herself. He knows his bible well enough to understand the significance of being called a son of david in this case, and not just that he is a bible man. Who understands that theology.

There are men who understand that theology in chapter 2, aren't they? They can quote from mica, they can tell you where the christ is to be born, but they aren't interested in going to worship the way the the Spiritual descendants of, daniel from the east. Are interested in worshipping the christ.

It's all just head knowledge. For Joseph, there's more than head knowledge here. This matters to him. He's a kingdom man. He doesn't just understand the the last timesy stuff from the bible about the son of david. He wants the kingdom to come. He wants the kingdom of satan to be destroyed and he wants the kingdom of grace.

Well to be established. And then to me, Well. His in glory, by the time. It was a It was inaugurated. He wants. Himself and others brought into it. Captain. He wants the kingdom of glory to behest. Is a bible man. He's a kingdom, man. He's an obedient man. There's not just understanding what doctrine teaches.

There's not just caring. That it would be fulfilled, there's obedience to whatever part he's given. He's commanded to take Mary to himself. As his wife, his commanded to name, the baby, that is in her jesus. And so he did as the angel of the lord commanded him, and he takes her as his wife, Jesus is born.

To a married father and mother because Joseph obeyed the command of the angel And jesus his name, jesus because jesus Obeyed. The command of the angel. God, give that all of the husbands, all of the fathers, all of the future, husbands and fathers. Among us would be bible men and kingdom men and obedient men.

That we would understand what the bible teaches that we would care for what the bible promises, the priorities of god and the world that we would obey what the bible commands us. And not just a godly father, but a godly mother. There's, A. Trifecta. In verse 21 of responsibilities.

Joseph's responsibility will deal with first, even though, Mary's is named first, you shall call his name jesus. He is the head of the household. He he is responsible. And he takes that leadership by calling by giving jesus his name, just like adam understood. When god brought to him the woman, That he was now the head of a household.

And he took the responsibility that god was giving him a signing to him and he called her name. Woman. And then he was the head of a christian household, wasn't he? When he heard that she would be mother of the living, he gave her a new name. Eve. But Mary also, She will bring forth the sun.

And this is not just. That she carried him for nine months and that she went through the trial of labor in which Her life was on the line. Then she felt it. But the self-sacrifice that then comes With having a baby. He has to adjust to this new world outside, the womb.

Where when you're moving your awake instead of asleep and being rocked in the womb and when you're still, you're supposed to sleep instead of, uh, waking up and having play time. Or exercise time. And all the in the sacrifice that comes with adjusting to a human being like that.

And the sacrifice that comes with pouring out your life. In feeding and and helping and clothing, and changing. And

She brought forth a son. Now she she didn't bring him forth in the pain of having a sinful son. But still, there was much self-sacrifice. That was required of her. Bearing nurturing. Rearing. And instrumentally marries parts, she will bring forth us on and Joseph sparked, you shall call his name, jesus, our instrumentally necessary and contributions to the lord jesus.

But jesus of course, has his part that he alone of all of humanity could ever do. He will save his people. From their sins. Dear parents. Each of you. Have a part. That has been assigned to you and your child's life. You don't know what your child's calling will be.

Your child doesn't know yet, what's his or her calling, and this life will be the place that's that, god will put them in and what he will use them to do for the glory of his name. The good of his people good have his kingdom. But you may know for certain that a big part of your child fulfilling that to which god calls them that those good works, that god has planned for them.

That they will only come to walk in by his grace through faith. And the lord jesus christ. A big part of their coming to that place. Is the dad. Leading in godliness. The mom bearing and nurturing and rearing. And godliness. How much rests upon parents for their children? And how much rests rested for all of us?

Upon god's grace in and use of joseph and mary. They are not to be worshiped. Not anymore than a godly father, a godly mother today is to be worshiped. But in god's providence to you and to me, there are critically necessary. And we ought to be grateful for them.

It was a necessity of godly parents. For the lord, jesus christ. The second place. There is the necessity that he be conceived. By the holy spirit. We are told before Joseph is in verse 18 that she was a child by the holy spirit. Than Joseph is told in verse 20.

Do not be afraid to take to you. Marry your wife? For. That which is conceived in her forgotten in her. Is of, The holy spirit. And then she is, he is told why it is necessary. She will bring forth a son. And you shall call his name, jesus. For, he will save his people from their sins and then matthew tells us something that Joseph, probably already understands That it is necessary that the child in Mary, if the child is going to save his people from their sins, it is necessary that the child in Mary be of god, instead of Joseph Because only god can save his people from their sins.

That is what the name. Jesus here is saying, god helping us will hear about that. And in the third part and necessity of his divine personhood. But only god can save his people from Their sins. And so, the baby in mary is a human being. The baby and mary has a human body and a reasoning responding reactive human soul a real human soul.

But the baby in Mary is a divine person. Which means that the baby and mary cannot have sin. And if the baby and mary has Joseph as a father, then the baby and Mary would be a sinner in joseph. And so there's no human father because he is god.

Is important that. That we understand that it is more necessary. Because of who Jesus is in his person that he would be born of a virgin. Than it is necessary because of what we need him to do for us as a savior. There is something much greater at stake than that you and I need perfect righteousness.

Substituted for us. And that is the integrity of the second person of the Godhead. He cannot take unto himself a sinful human nature because he is God. And he cannot add sin to himself. Or sinfulness to himself. And so if the baby in Mary is God, he cannot have Jesus.

He cannot have Joseph as his father. And Joseph. That's what the angel is telling Joseph.

That, which is conceived in her as of the Holy Spirit. And she brings forth a son, he's not going to be the son of Joseph. He's going to be the son of God.

And you will call his name, Jesus. Because he will save his people from their sins. Now that's what Joseph already understands and Matthew by the Holy Spirit. In verses 22 and 23, explains it to us out of Isaiah 7.

Now, if you, if you haven't been using the Hope walls at home. I'm sorry, we can't take the time to establish the entire context of the book of Isaiah for you. But if you have the Lord prominently rewards you because you have more context than we'll be able to cover here, but as this Under threat from an alliance of Israel, the northern kingdom and Syria to the northeast.

It has, as the king of Judah, the southern kingdom. And he's hoping in an alliance with Tiglath-pileser of Assyria. Which everybody who knows history understands how ridiculous that is. Um, But that's a has his hope. Now the Lord is coming and he's offering a has salvation from himself, Isaiah chapter 7.

Moreover, you always spoke again to a has saying, ask a sign for yourself from Yahweh. Your God ask it either in the depth or in the height above. But Ahas said, I will not ask, nor will, I test Yahweh is really pious sounding answer. But the real problem is, he doesn't want to be saved by the Lord, his God.

He doesn't want covenantal salvation. From the Lord because he thinks he has clever salvation from Ahas and Tiglath-pileser. Then he said that as Isaiah here. Now, of house of David Is it a small thing for you to weary men? But will you weary my God also, therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son and shall call his name Emmanuel, and we don't have time, To go through the use of. *Battula* and other Hebrew words. But it absolutely does mean. A. A virgin here, a woman who has not known a man and not just a maiden.

But then, The prophecy. The prophecy there in verse 14, about to sign that is coming in 700 years. Matched with a I'm sorry. Verse 15 is still about the Lord, and then There's, Um there's a prophecy that is going to be fulfilled within a few years. So cards and honey, he shall eat.

That he may know to refuse the evil and choose the good and he makes reference not only to the fact that a virgin will give birth to a son who is a son of God and who is God himself with us, verse 14, but that he will be born in a low condition.

Uh inverse 15 and then that is paired with a prophecy in the near-term for as For before the child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land that you dread will be

forsaken by both her kings. And god, and the near term is going to make the israel and the Ephraim and syria or Arabian alliance crumble.

But in in the same context in chapter 8, There is this very important word about The lord himself being his people's salvation. Do not eight verse 12, do not say a conspiracy, concerning all that. This people call a conspiracy, nor be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled. You always have hosts him.

You shall follow him. You shall hallow. Let him be your fear. Let him be your tread, he will be as a sanctuary. Okay. So yahweh saves That was what ahas failed to believe. With respect to ticklish police are And he was about to be judged for it. But the sign that is given is one that comes in 700 years because there is more to be saved from than israel.

There is more to be saved from than Syria. There is more to be saved from than a Syria. There is more to be saved from than Babylon, or Persia, or Greece, or rome, or Russia, or the american government. And the lord himself is our salvation. Not just our deliverance in the moment of history.

But in the great moment that is all of history, The lord is our salvation from our sin and from the wrath of god, that is due to our sin. The lord is our salvation. But if you continue reading in verse 14, he will be as a sanctuary, the lord, our salvation, but A stone of stumbling.

And a rock of offense. To both of the houses of israel. And as we've heard, And the 10 chapters since then and will continue to hear in various ways through the book of isaiah A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense to everyone who wants to save themselves.

God, alone is savior. And it was necessary, then that jesus be born. That jesus be conceived by the holy spirit because he's god, because he's a manual because he is the only one who can deliver you from anything. Let alone from your sin and from the wrath that is due to your sin.

And if we trust in anything else at all, Then we do like israel did. End of Romans 9 beginning in Romans 10. We come to a salvation that is complete offered entirely in god, but we want to do some of it ourselves. And we stumble over him. And it becomes offensive to us.

And many of you have discovered that and offering free and full salvation in jesus christ. Whether it's to someone outside of the church, And they're clinging to this idea that That, you know, there's there's some redemptive value. Atoning value, spiritually worthwhile value in what they have done. And that's keeping them.

From trusting only in jesus christ. The responding like ahas. But god comes and matthew 1. And he says, don't you remember the sign that was given to as the reason jesus's name jesus? The reason jesus's name in manual. Nothing you do can save you at all. Only god saves all by himself.

Don't stumble over. That, don't be offended at that rejoice over that god has come to save.

Some of you have experienced that evangelizing people in the church. You're trying to talk to them about this marvelous salvation, that is all of god. We want to say, oh no. Part of it is you you make the choice. You make the decision. And you try to you try to tell them, don't you?

No, no salvation is all of god, and that's a good thing. That's a wonderful thing because we can't choose. We can't think your desire. Anything good apart from grace. Oh my god, can give that by grace. And they become. Offended. And they stumble over it. The refused to embrace.

Such a salvation. Such a savior. As god really is.

So wonderful film in ten. Isaiah 7 10 through 15 took three years but the other one this one Took 700 years. Praise God, things were exactly opposite which Joseph had feared. Joseph had feared that Mary was unfit. To be a mother of his children.

The truth was. Mary had been used by the holy spirit. To produce a son of whom Joseph, was unfit to be the father. Because that sun is god. Yes, fully human. But a divine person. Jesus does not have two persons. One divine person with two natures. And so his human nature, couldn't have any sin.

The necessity of his godly parents, the necessity of spirit conception. And the necessity of his divine personhood, Oh, the folly of bible critics. You read verse 21. You shall call his name, jesus? You read verse 25. He called his name, jesus. Then you read verse 23. Where matthew is saying in between those things by the holy spirit, They shall call his name Emmanuel.

And what does the rebellious bible critic do? Instead of saying, Behold these two names mean the same thing. Each one is explaining the other. Praise god. That jesus means the same thing to us in its fullness, as a manual, and a manual means the same thing to us in its fullness as jesus.

The bible critics, says, aha, there's an error. And these two places it says, his name is jesus in the place in the middle. It says his name is Emmanuel, one of those is wrong.

Utterly foolish, isn't it? And sometimes. You do it with other things. But what does he doing here? He's showing us the necessity of his divine personhood. You see when he says you shall call his name jesus for. He will say his people from their sins. He's not saying You shall call his name?

The lord saves jesus. You so call his name, the lord jesus, you shall call his name, the lord saves because the lord will say him will use him to save the lord's people from their sins. No, he's saying you should call his name jesus because he is the lord.

Because he will save his people. David was his person. This is white when david prophesies of the lord jesus in psalmaha 110. He says. Yahweh said to my lord, Mary is going to give birth to her lord. Jojoseph is the adoptive father of his lord. Jesus, as he grows in wisdom understands himself to be the lord.

The god who made heaven and earth and all that is in them. And that Joseph with his circumcision and Mary who came from a circumcised man and had had the signs of the covenant. That those signs said that they belonged to the one. Whose diapers they changed? Because he created them and not the other way around.

Will save his people.

So, we don't know how. Much stress of understood or how rightly he responded. But can you imagine family worship? The next month's. If they were rightly responding and joseph and marry Praying to the one. Whom they also know to be forming as a man. And Mary's room.

He was called jesus. Because he is god with us.

He is the lord himself who saves. It is necessary that he beat a divine person. Because as we've already heard, He has to be exhibited as a propitiation. Romans 3 verse 25. Displayed as a sacrifice who is equal to god's glory. Not just an image or made in the image of god.

But a being who is equal. In glory. To god.

Truly a has refused to pick a sign from heaven above. Or from the depths beneath. But god fulfilled. What he had promised. When he says the word is not near you. There's not in the heavens that you should go get. It is not in the depths that you should bring it up.

God brings us word near you. But one day the word himself became flesh. We did not go and get the son of god from heaven. And when he died, when he laid down his life by his own authority, No man helped him rise from the dead. He took his life up again by his own authority.

God. Came near. God, enter the womb of Mary. God. Came to save. His people. You see the role that matters most in your life isn't even your own. You have a role, you have a calling But the one whose role matters most in your life. Is christ. That you would know that he is, your god.

That you would know that he is your creator. That you would know him as your savior. That you had sinned against the glory of god. And the glorious. God became a man. To save you from your sins.

Yield. Yield to his role as savior trust only in him. And nothing at all. That you say or do or desire or have sincere? You are. And all of it rubbish. And jesus alone is worthy, and jesus alone is able and jesus alone as atoning. Yields to his role as savior trust only in him yield to his role as your god.

And worship him. And get all your life from him. Yield to his role as your king. Devote yourself in whatever, you're calling is whatever your role is. To his service. As a subject of king, jesus. Who is a manual? God with us. To save us. Man.

Oh lord. How often you give us by your spirit? To have the experience of Thomas. You come to us by your words and you say something. And we realize, Even more than we ever have before that, you are god. Who made us? And you are a manual god with us.

Because you are jesus. You although it says And we pray that by your spirits, applying your words to our hearts we would have the same response and fall before you And worship you. Lord jesus saying my lord and my god.

We bless your name. That you came near that you took on our humanity. To save us. And we praise you who are king. And we ask that even by your almighty power, and your great mercy. You would make us to know you as our subjects. To know you as our king and ourselves as your subjects.

Will make us to trust you and worship you. And obey, you. We ask in your own glorious name. Lord jesus. Amen.