

Encountering Immanuel, the Savior of the World – Part 1

Matthew 1:18-25

A. Context: An Important Genealogy

1. While we might gloss over the first section of the Gospel of Matthew in hopes of a more _____ passage, the genealogy in 1:1-1:17 remains one of the most _____ sections of Scripture in the Bible.
2. _____, instead of being a vagabond or illegitimate child, is the Son of David, the Son of Abraham, and the Son of God. (Luke 3:23-38)

B. The Problem: A righteous man, an _____ situation, and the work of the Holy Spirit. v.18-19

1. Joseph, while righteous and godly, could not see the hand of God _____ such _____ circumstances in the life of his virtuous bride to be. (Deuteronomy 22:13-29, Luke 1:26-56)
2. Often times in life, we get caught up in what we see and hear and our _____ becomes blinded by our circumstances. (Mark 9:14-29, Acts 9:10-18)

C. The Solution: The Lord graciously _____ before Joseph makes a move; what appeared to be a bad situation was going to be the beginning of God's greatest display of love. v.20-23

1. Joseph, instead of having to make a difficult _____ in messy circumstances, was reassured of the Lord's _____ and goodness in all things.
2. We, as believers, can walk through any trial with _____ because Immanuel has come! (Hebrews 13:5-6, Philippians 1:3-11, 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

D. The Result: Equipped with the knowledge of _____, believers obediently participate in the awesome, redemptive plan of God! v.24-25

1. Joseph's _____ to the Lord's message (as relayed by the angel) was immediate obedience. His _____ to the Lord, even in the face of the ridicule that must have ensued, helped pave the way for millions of people to be forever _____ by the message of the Gospel.
2. We have begun a New Year, but Christmas need never end; as we _____ Christ's first coming and anticipate His second, are people around us and around the world being affected by our _____ faith in Him? (Romans 5:12-21, 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10, Hebrews 11:1-12:2)

#118 What Child is This

- A. 1-"interesting", important, 2-Jesus Christ, B.-ugly, 1-orchestrating, awful, 2-faith, C.-intervenes, 1-decision, sovereignty, 2-hope, D.-Immanuel, 1-response, faithfulness, changed, 2-celebrate, obedient