

# SERMON STUDY QUESTIONS

JANUARY 20, 2019

1. Read Matthew 1:18-25
2. At the outset we noted how the incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection are the three most important events in history. With that in mind, why is the incarnation absolutely vital to our salvation? Be as thorough as possible.
3. Why was it such a scandal that Mary was pregnant? What is betrothal, and why did that further complicate things?
4. We see in this passage here that the child which was conceived in Mary's womb was from the Holy Spirit. What does that tell us about the role of the Holy Spirit in the incarnation?
5. In basic Christology we learn that the Son of God existed eternally with the Father. But in the incarnation the Son took on human flesh and, in the words of the Nicene Creed "was made man." If the Son is eternal, what does it mean that the Son "was made man"? Moreover, in being made man, what does that tell us about Jesus?
6. In looking at the original context of the prophecy of the virgin birth, why does God give that prophecy at that time and in that context? What is the practical point of giving it then?
7. What is the "sign" of the virgin birth, meaning, what is the message of the virgin birth is pointing to?
8. The angel tells Joseph to name the child "Jesus," because He will save His people from their sins. Who are His people? What does it mean to be saved from sin? In answering that, notice also the certainty with which the angel speaks of Jesus accomplishing His saving mission.
9. What practical application can you make from this text/sermon?
10. Pray!