Lesson Five - THE BIRTH of JESUS - The WORD INCARNATE - Matthew 1:1-2:18

Intro:
A. The birth of Christ is an important Biblical event –
1. There are important theological implications in the incarnation! – especially as it pertains to the
doctrine of “total depravity”
2. We are told to remember Jesus by observing the Lord’s supper each first day of the week –
3. The scriptures do NOT instruct us by precept, example or implication to celebrate the birth of
Jesus! – (Col. 3:17; 2Tim 3:16,17; 2 Pet 1:3; John 4:24)
   a. Colossians 3:17 (NKJV) - 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the
      Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
   b. 2 Timothy 3:16 (NKJV) - 16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for
documentation, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,
      (1) 2 Timothy 3:17 (NKJV) - 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for
every good work.
   c. 2 Peter 1:3 (NKJV) - 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and
godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,
   d. John 4:24 (NKJV) - 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and
      truth.”

B. In our study today we will examine:
1. The Nature of His Conception
2. The Nature of His Birth
3. The Nature of His Person
4. The Nature of His Mission
5. The Nature of Our Response

II. The Nature of His Conception:
A. Ever since the doctrine of original sin or inherited depravity has been taught, there has been the
troublesome question of whether Jesus was born with a sinful nature. One who holds to any theory
of original sin faces a real problem in dealing with the issue of the nature of Christ. Because the
Bible teaches that He was free of sin, and since He was born of a woman, it is evident that according
to the doctrine of original sin, He is a contradiction. How to deal with this contradiction becomes
a central issue for those who hold this doctrine. Catholic theology seeks to solve the problem by the
dogma of the immaculate conception. By this is meant that when the egg and the sperm united in the
womb of Mary’s mother she {ie. Mary Jesus' mother - emp JC} was preserved from original sin. Mary,
therefore, was immaculately conceived and preserved from sin so as to be a fit vessel to bear
the holy Jesus. Consequently, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and was born of a woman who
was free of original sin. He, therefore, was born free of original sin, according to the theory. Did
Jesus have a sinful nature? The Bible is clear in expressing the sinlessness of Jesus. Scripture is
likewise clear about His having borne the nature of men. ---- Clinton D, Hamilton
1. “The conception of human offspring, according to natural law, occurs only when the sperm of a
man unites with the egg of a woman. In the case of Jesus, though, writers of the first century report
that he was born of a virgin. The writers agree that a power outside of nature made the conception
possible. It was a miracle, a supernatural event-a verifiable occurrence in nature caused by a power
from beyond nature.” - LA Stauffer
2. Such was the nature of His conception - What should have been a death penalty case - was
prevented by the intervention of God.
   a. Mary when the angel announced that she was to have a child. "How shall this be, seeing I know
not a man?” (Luke 1:34).
b. Mary knew as well as anyone in today's so-called scientific and enlightened age that virgins do not naturally have babies.

(1) The angel then explained, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: wherefore also the holy thing which is begotten shall be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35).

3. In Matthew's account to Joseph - Mary's betrothed husband, to assure him that Mary's pregnancy was not of another man but of the Holy Spirit.

a. "Joseph thou son of David," the angel said, "fear not to take unto thee Mary they wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit" (Matt 1:20)

b. Matthew then noted that this event fulfilled a prophecy announced several hundred years before.

(1) The prophet Isaiah, he records, had said: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, And they shall call his name Immanuel" (Isa. 7:14; Matt. 1:23).

(2) Matthew 1:23 (NKJV) - 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.”

B. The nature of his relationship to God the Father - Jesus the Son,

1. As we've studied thus far, Jesus did not become a Son until His birth upon earth.

2. After His birth, three common phrases are used to refer to Jesus, relating to God begetting Him through Mary.

a. The Son (John 5:19 NKJV) - 19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

b. The Son of God - John 1:34 (NKJV) - 34 And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”

c. The Son of Man - John 1:51 (NKJV) - 51 And He said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

C. Jesus, Son of God

1. The phrase "Son of God" refers to the fact that God begat Jesus, recognizing His divine nature while in the flesh, as asserted in John 1:18 (NKJV) - 18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

2. Two notable occasions when God referred to Jesus as His Son are His baptism, and the transfiguration.

a. His Baptism: “…This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased" (Matt. 3:17).

b. The Transfiguration: “….a voice out of the cloud said, This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him" (Matt. 17:5).

c. Only Begotten Son “of God”

D. The word "son" refers to one begotten of another.

1. For example, a father named John has a son named James. So then, we could say that James is the son of John.

2. In this fashion, the phrase "Son of God" refers to Jesus as the One begotten of God.

a. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son . . ." (Jn. 3:16).

E. This phrase doesn't imply that Jesus is a created being by God, and not divine, as some in the world believe.

1. John makes it abundantly clear that Jesus is eternal, though He was begotten by God.

a. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God" (Jn. 1:1-2).
b. "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth" (Jn. 1:14).

c. "No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, has explained Him" (Jn. 1:18).

d. One of the blessings we derive from Jesus as the Son of God, is that we're beloved children of God, as members of His church (Eph. 5:1, 23-24).

(1) Ephesians 5:1 (NKJV) - 1 Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.

(2) Ephesians 5:23-24 (NKJV) - 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

F. Jesus, Son of Man

1. The phrase "Son of Man" refers to the fact that Jesus was born of Mary, recognizing His human nature while in the flesh, as asserted in John 1:1-2, 14.

2. It was necessary for Jesus to come in the flesh to render the devil powerless, free us from sin, and save us from eternal damnation (Heb. 2:14-18; Lk. 19:10).

a. Hebrews 2:14-18 (NKJV) - 14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. 17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

b. Luke 19:10 (NKJV) - 10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

III. The Nature of His Birth

A. The birth of Jesus is recorded in Matthew 1,2 and Luke 1,2.

(a) Jesus was born in Bethlehem, not Jerusalem (Luke 2:4-7).

i) Luke 2:4-7 (NKJV) - 4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. 6 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

(b) The baby Jesus was put in a manger for there was no room at the inn (Luke 2:7).

i) Luke 2:7 (NKJV) - 7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

(c) The shepherds visited Jesus on the night He was born (Luke 2:8-20).

i) Luke 2:8-20 (NKJV) - 8 Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10 Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” 15 So it was, when the angels had gone away
from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.” 16 And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. 17 Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. 18 And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. 19 But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

(d) On the 8th day of His life, Jesus was circumcised in accordance with the Law of Moses (Luke 2:21).

i) Luke 2:21 (NKJV) - 21 And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

(e) Joseph and Mary took Jesus when He was a little over a month old (40 days) to Jerusalem to be presented in the Temple to be "called holy to the Lord and to offer a sacrifice" according to the Law of Moses (Luke 2:22-24).

i) Luke 2:22-24 (NKJV) - 22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord” ), 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

(f) Wise men from the East visit the family in a HOUSE - not a manger. The wise men never see Jesus in a manger as a newborn baby. He was a "CHILD" and was of some age in accordance with the decision of Herod to kill all male children from two years old and under (Matthew 2:16-18).

i) Matthew 2:16-18 (NKJV) - 16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. 17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: 18 “A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more.”

(g) The star seen by the wise men stood over a HOUSE, not a manger (Matthew 2:9).

i) Matthew 2:9 (NKJV) - 9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was.

ii) The Bible does not tell us the number of wise men nor their nationalities.

(h) Jesus lived in Egypt as a child (Matthew 2:13-15).

i) Matthew 2:13-15 (NKJV) - 13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.” 14 When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, 15 and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, “Out of Egypt I called My Son.”

(i) The Lord grew up in Nazareth (Luke 2:39; Matthew 2:19-23).

i) Luke 2:39 (NKJV) - 39 So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth.
Matthew 2:19-23 (NKJV) - 19 Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, “Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child’s life are dead.” 21 Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. 23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

The New Testament church never mentions the birth of Jesus as a day of celebration.

Mary, His mother, was a part of the early church and nothing is written about the time of the birth of Jesus. (Acts 1:14; Colossians 2:16-23).

Acts 1:14 (NKJV) - 14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

Colossians 2:16-23 (NKJV) - 16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. 18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, 19 and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God. 20 Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as though living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations— 21 “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,” 22 which all concern things which perish with the using— according to the commandments and doctrines of men? 23 These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

YOU SHALL NOT ADD TO THE WORD WHICH I COMMAND YOU, NOR TAKE ANYTHING FROM IT, THAT YOU MAY KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD YOUR GOD WHICH I COMMAND YOU” (Deuteronomy 4:2) Birth of Jesus - (Mt. 1:25; Lk 2:1-7)

Matthew 1:25 (NKJV) - 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

Luke 2:1-7 (NKJV) - 1 And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. 3 So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. 4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. 6 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

B. So what we have noted about His birth:
1. Visit of the Shepherds – (Lk 2:8-20)
2. Jesus circumcised the 8th day - (Lk. 2:21)
3. Jesus’ presentation 40 days after birth - (Lk 2:22; Lev. 12:2-6)
4. Visit of wise men - (Mt. 2:1-12) – [Not told how many - Came to house – not manger (v. 11)]
5. Journey to Egypt - (Mt 2:13-15)
6. Male children killed - (Mt 2:16-18)
7. Return to Nazareth - (Lk. 2:39; Mt. 2:19-23)
8. The N.T. church never celebrated the birth (etc. in observation of the Lord’s Supper) nor mentioned the adoration of Mary in any special Heavenly way.

1. JESUS’ "LEGAL" RIGHT TO DAVID’S THRONE IS ESTABLISHED...
   a. Not His "fleshly" right, for Matthew describes Jesus as the adopted son of Joseph
2. Luke records the "fleshly" ancestry of Jesus in Lk 3:23-38
   a. A record of His ancestry from His mother’s side
   b. Where He is shown to have descended from David through Nathan, not Solomon -- A careful study of Lk 3 confirms this.
3. This helps to answer a puzzling dilemma found in the OT - God promised that the Messiah would come from the loins of David
   a. But a descendant through Solomon, Jeconiah (Mt 1:11), was so wicked that God promised none of his descendants would rule on the throne of David - Jer 22:24-30
   (1) Jeremiah 22:24-30 (NKJV) - 24 “As I live,” says the Lord, “though Coniah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, were the signet on My right hand, yet I would pluck you off; 25 and I will give you into the hand of those who seek your life, and into the hand of those whose face you fear—the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and the hand of the Chaldeans. 26 So I will cast you out, and your mother who bore you, into another country where you were not born; and there you shall die. 27 But to the land to which they desire to return, there they shall not return. 28 “Is this man Coniah a despised, broken idol— A vessel in which is no pleasure? Why are they cast out, he and his descendants, And cast into a land which they do not know? 29 O earth, earth, earth, Hear the word of the Lord! 30 Thus says the Lord: “Write this man down as childless, A man who shall not prosper in his days; For none of his descendants shall prosper, Sitting on the throne of David, And ruling anymore in Judah.” ”
   b. How then would God fulfill His promise to David? - By a descendant from a son other than Solomon
   (1) Which Jesus was, having descended in the flesh from Nathan
4. So Jesus is both "legal" and "fleshly" heir to the throne of David...
   a. "Legal" heir by virtue of His adoption by Joseph, descendant of Solomon
   b. "Fleshly" heir by virtue of His birth by Mary, descendant of Nathan

D. Born of a virgin – Mat. 1:18,20,22,23; Luke 1:27; Is. 7:14; Gen 3:15
1. Matthew 1:18 (NKJV) - 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.
2. Matthew 1:20 (NKJV) - 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.
3. Matthew 1:22 (NKJV) - 22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:
   a. Matthew 1:23 (NKJV) - 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.”
4. Luke 1:27 (NKJV) - 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary.
5. Isaiah 7:14 (NKJV) - 14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.
6. Genesis 3:15 (NKJV) - 15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

E. Became flesh – Mat. 1:18,23,25; John 1:14; Gal. 4:4,5; 1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 2:9-18; 10:5
1. Matthew 1:18 (NKJV) - 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.

2. **Matthew 1:23** (NKJV) - 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.”

3. **Matthew 1:25** (NKJV) - 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

4. **John 1:14** (NKJV) - 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

5. **Galatians 4:4** (NKJV) - 4 But when the fulness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
   a. **Galatians 4:5** (NKJV) - 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

6. **1 Timothy 3:15** (NKJV) - 15 but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

7. **Hebrews 2:9-18** (NKJV) - 9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. 10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, 12 saying: “I will declare Your name to My brethren; In the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You.” 13 And again: “I will put My trust in Him.” And again: “Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.” 14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. 17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

8. **Hebrews 10:5** (NKJV) - 5 Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: “Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me.

### IV. The Nature of His Person

**A. Of the Holy Spirit – Mat. 1:18,20; Luke 1:35**

1. **Matthew 1:18** (NKJV) - 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.

2. **Matthew 1:20** (NKJV) - 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.

3. **Luke 1:35** (NKJV) - 35 And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

**B. They shall call His name Immanuel – Mat. 1:23; “God with us” — 1 Tim. 3:16**

1. **Matthew 1:23** (NKJV) - 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.”

2. **1 Timothy 3:16** (NKJV) - 16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.
V. The Nature of His Mission

A. Royal Lineage – Mat. 1:1-17; 2:2,6; Luke 3:23-38; 2 Sam 7:11-16; Ps. 89:3,4; Acts 2:29-33

1. 2 Samuel 7:11-16 (NKJV) - 11 since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the Lord tells you that He will make you a house. 12 “When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his Father, and he shall be My Son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. 15 But My mercy shall not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.”’ ”

2. Psalm 89:3 (NKJV) - 3 “I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to My servant David:

3. Psalm 89:4 (NKJV) - 4 ‘Your seed I will establish forever, And build up your throne to all generations.’ ” Selah

4. Acts 2:29-33 (NKJV) - 29 “Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, 31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.

B. “JESUS CHRIST”– Mat. 1:18,21,25; Luke 2:11 - lit “Jehovah is salvation,” – “Anointed One” — Ps. 130:7,8; Is. 12:2; Jn 1:29; Acts 4:12; 13:23; 1 Jn 2:2; Tit. 2:14; Rom. 4:25

1. NKJV Lk 2:11 ---- For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

   a. NKJV Jn 11:27 ---- She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

   b. NKJV Acts 2:36 ---- "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

   c. NKJV Acts 10:36 ---- The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ--He is Lord of all--

2. Psalm 130:7 (NKJV) - 7 O Israel, hope in the Lord; For with the Lord there is mercy, And with Him is abundant redemption.

   a. Psalm 130:8 (NKJV) - 8 And He shall redeem Israel From all his iniquities.

   b. Isaiah 12:2 (NKJV) - 2 Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; ‘For Yah, the
Lord, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.’ “

c. **John 1:29** (NKJV) - 29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

d. **Acts 4:12** (NKJV) - 12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

e. **Acts 13:23** (NKJV) - 23 From this man’s seed, according to the promise, God raised up for Israel a Savior—Jesus—

f. **1 John 2:2** (NKJV) - 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

g. **Titus 2:14** (NKJV) - 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

h. **Romans 4:25** (NKJV) - 25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

VI. **The Nature of Our Response**

A. The need for worshiping Jesus as He is – **Mat. 2:1,2,11; John 5:23; 9:23; 20:28; Acts 2:22-42; Rom. 14:6-12; 2 Cor. 5:14-17**

1. **Matthew 2:1** (NKJV) - 1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,

   a. **Matthew 2:2** (NKJV) - 2 saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

2. **Matthew 2:11** (NKJV) - 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

3. **John 5:23** (NKJV) - 23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

4. **John 9:23** (NKJV) - 23 Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

5. **John 20:28** (NKJV) - 28 And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”

6. **Acts 2:22-42** (NKJV) - 22 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know— 23 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; 24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. 25 For David says concerning Him: ‘I foresaw the Lord always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope. 27 For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. 28 You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.’ 29 “Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, 31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. 34 “For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, 35 Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”’” 36 “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” 37 Now when they heard this,
they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” 38 Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.” 40 And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.” 41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

7. **Romans 14:6-12** (NKJV) - 6 He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks. 7 For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. 8 For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s. 9 For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living. 10 But why do you judge your brother? Or why do you show contempt for your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. 11 For it is written: “As I live, says the Lord, Every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall confess to God.” 12 So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

8. **2 Corinthians 5:14-17** (NKJV) - 14 For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. 16 Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

B. The need to worship as Jesus says – **John 4:24; 14:15; 15:10; Luke 22:19; 1 Cor. 11:24; Acts 2:42**

1. **John 4:24** (NKJV) - 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”
2. **John 14:15** (NKJV) - 15 “If you love Me, keep My commandments.
3. **John 15:10** (NKJV) - 10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.
4. **Luke 22:19** (NKJV) - 19 And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”
5. **1 Corinthians 11:24** (NKJV) - 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”
6. **Acts 2:42** (NKJV) - 42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

VII. **Conclusion:**

A. We have looked at The Nature of the Conception

1. The Nature of His Birth
2. The Nature of His Person
3. The Nature of His Mission
4. The Nature of Our Response

B. The one who was born and called Jesus grew up – left us an example – died for us – and was raised – and has ascended to the right hand of the Father –

1. Jesus now has all authority in heaven and earth – **Matthew 28:18-20** (NKJV) - 18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

C. Let us move away from the manger to His throne in heaven -

D. Let us worship, honor and serve the King of King’s and Lord of Lord’s –

E. One day we will stand before Him in judgment – **2 Corinthians 5:10** (NKJV) - 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

\[\text{1}\]

\[\text{1} The New King James Version. 1982. Nashville: Thomas Nelson.\]