

A Savior Who Delivers

Scripture: **Matthew 1:18-25**

Series: **Advent 2016: Comfort & Joy**

Sunday, December 18, 2016



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Overview

Christmas is a great time of year for many people. They go all out for decorating, caroling, presents, food, family, and celebrations. For other people, it may be a difficult time. Some may be experiencing loss, grief, and sadness. Others may become stressed and fearful due to possible family conflicts during the holidays. The true meaning of Christmas is about rescue, resolution, and peace. It is the unfolding of a plan to defeat our greatest enemies and fears. **Without Jesus you will never know freedom from your greatest enemies.**

Corroborating Texts

Psalms 37:21; Isaiah 43:1; Romans 5:12-19; Galatians 4:1-7

Discussion Questions

1. Review the birth narrative in Matthew 1:18-25:

- What was Joseph and Mary's problem?
- What were Joseph's alternative solutions?
- What course of action did Joseph initially choose? Why?
- What was the angel's message (and solution)?
- How did Joseph respond to the angel?
- What was the significance of Joseph's adoption of Jesus prophetically?

2. Discuss our situation:

- We have many problems. What is our root-cause problem?
- How significant is our problem? How powerful are our enemies?
- How does the coming of Jesus (birth, life, death, resurrection) provide the solution to our problems and defeat our enemies?
- How should we respond to God's mercy to us in Jesus?

3. How can we help and encourage one another truly celebrate Christmas? How do we redeem the holiday within our family and corporate celebrations?