

The Birth of Jesus, According to Matthew

Matthew 1:18 - 24

Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about^[d]: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet^[e] did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,^[f] because he will save his people from their sins.”

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”^[g] (which means “God with us”).

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Footnotes:

1. [Matthew 1:18](#) Or *The origin of Jesus the Messiah was like this*
2. [Matthew 1:19](#) Or *was a righteous man and*
3. [Matthew 1:21](#) *Jesus* is the Greek form of *Joshua*, which means *the Lord saves*.
4. [Matthew 1:23](#) Isaiah 7:14

Matthew 2 New International Version (NIV)

The Magi Visit the Messiah

2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi^[a] from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴ When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

6““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”^[b]”

7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Escape to Egypt

¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”^[c]

¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷ Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸ “A voice is heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children
and refusing to be comforted,
because they are no more.”^[d]

The Return to Nazareth

¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰ and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”

²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³ and he went and lived

in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Footnotes:

1. [Matthew 2:1](#) Traditionally *wise men*
2. [Matthew 2:6](#) Micah 5:2,4
3. [Matthew 2:15](#) Hosea 11:1
4. [Matthew 2:18](#) Jer. 31:15



Kahoot It Review Game

The Birth of Jesus, According to Matthew:

<https://play.kahoot.it/#/k/7e30cde1-68a4-4367-abb1-cec69ae5d4aa>

Self-Grading Assessment Link and Directions

(Print and Go Assessment and Answer Key begin on the next page.)

Socrative.com allows teachers to give online tests and quizzes, which are automatically graded for the teacher. Teachers simply sign up to this free site by creating a user name and password. The tests are even editable! Learn how to set up a Socrative account here:

<https://teachingcenter.wustl.edu/resources/digital-pedagogy/getting-started-with-socrative/>

The Socrative Link for the Self-Grading Quiz is here:

<https://b.socrative.com/teacher/#import-quiz/31743044>

Name _____ Date _____



The Birth of Jesus, According to Matthew Quiz

1. When Joseph found out Mary was pregnant, what did he plan to do?
 - A. marry her in Bethlehem
 - B. divorce her quietly
 - C. send her to see Elizabeth
 - D. find another wife
2. What changed Joseph's mind?
 - A. An Angel of the Lord came to him in a dream.
 - B. Mary's father had a talk with Joseph.
 - C. Elizabeth wrote Joseph a letter
 - D. An Angel of the Lord had a talk with Joseph on the road.
3. Why was Jesus to be named Jesus?
 - A. because he was named after his father
 - B. because he would save people from their sins
 - C. because Mary gave birth to him
 - D. because he was born on Christmas day
4. What does "Immanuel" mean?
 - A. Jesus is king
 - B. God is coming
 - C. God with us
 - D. Jesus is the Savior
5. Where is Bethlehem?
 - A. in Judea
 - B. in Egypt
 - C. in Moab
 - D. in Persia

6. What did the Magi ask King Herod?

- A. Where is the baby born of Mary and Jesus?
- B. Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?
- C. Where is the Savior of the world?
- D. Where is the North Star?

7. Why did the Magi follow the star?

- A. to worship Jesus
- B. to meet King Herod
- C. to write a story
- D. to buy a present

8. What did the people's chief priests and teachers of the law tell King Herod?

- A. Where Mary and Joseph came from.
- B. What was the name of the Messiah, according to the prophets.
- C. What countries the Magi came from.
- D. Where the Messiah was to be born, according to the prophets.

9. What ironic statement did King Herod make to the Magi?

- A. Tell him where they find the child so he can go worship him.
- B. Tell him how old they think the child is.
- C. Tell him what they think the child needs.
- D. Tell him what town Mary came from.

10. Name the three gifts from the Magi.

- A. gold, silver and frankincense
- B. gold, frankincense and myrrh
- C. silver, myrrh and frankincense
- D. myrrh, copper and gold

11. Why didn't the Magi return to King Herod?

- A. They received a letter from him telling them not to go.
- B. They had other obligations.
- C. They were warned in a dream not to go back to him.
- D. They had to visit another country.

12. What did the Angel of the Lord say to Joseph in a dream?

- A. Take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt.
- B. Take the child and his mother and escape to Jerusalem.
- C. Do not visit King Herod.
- D. Do not trust King Herod.

13. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of _____ I called my son.

- A. Bethlehem
- B. Egypt
- C. Jerusalem
- D. Nazareth

14. What did King Herod do when the Magi failed to return?

- A. gave orders to kill the boys in Bethlehem two years old and younger
- B. vowed to get even with the Magi
- C. vowed to find Joseph wherever he went
- D. gave orders to kill all children under the age of four

15. Who did Jeremiah say was "weeping"?

- A. Rebecca
- B. Mary
- C. Elizabeth
- D. Rachel

16. After Herod died, where did the Angel tell Joseph to go?

- A. Egypt
- B. Israel
- C. East
- D. West

17. Why was Joseph afraid to go to Judea?

- A. Archelaus was reigning in place of his father Herod.
- B. The Magi told him to leave the area.
- C. There were no jobs available for carpenters.
- D. There was much crime in the city.

18. Joseph was warned in a dream once again, and ended up in...

- A. Moab
- B. Bethlehem
- C. Egypt
- D. Nazareth

Answer Key

1. When Joseph found out Mary was pregnant, what did he plan to do?

- A. marry her in Bethlehem
- B. divorce her quietly**
- C. send her to see Elizabeth
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D. myrrh, copper and gold

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