



AN UNEXPECTED BIRTH

Matthew 1:18-21, Luke 2:7



MATTHEW 1:18-21



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Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”





1. BORN AMIDST MISUNDERSTANDING







1. *Mary found to be with a child.*





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2. Joseph finds out.





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3. Joseph considers divorcing her privately.





1. Mary found to be with a child.
2. Joseph finds out.
3. Joseph considers divorcing her privately.
4. Angel appears to speak to Joseph.



LUKE 2:7 (ESV)



LUKE 2:7 (ESV)

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.





2. BORN IN OBSCURITY





MANGER

"A manger was a feeding trough for animals. The word could also be used for a stall or enclosure where animals would be fed, but the reference to being 'placed' suggests the former."

Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary,
LUKE



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NO ROOM IN THE INN

"The 'Inn' was probably not an ancient hotel with rooms to rent and an innkeeper, but either a guest room in a private residence or an informal public shelter where travelers would gather for the night... in any case the crowded conditions force Joseph and Mary from normal lodging to a place reserved for animals."

Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary, LUKE





BIRTH OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE





DON'T LET THE OBSCURE BLIND YOU FROM
THE SPIRITUALLY SIGNIFICANT



DON'T LET THE OBSCURE BLIND YOU FROM
THE SPIRITUALLY SIGNIFICANT

DON'T DESPISE THE DAY OF SMALL THINGS





BORN AMIDST MISUNDERSTANDING

God of mystery whose ways are above our ways



BORN AMIDST MISUNDERSTANDING

God of mystery whose ways are above our ways

BORN IN OBSCURITY



BORN AMIDST MISUNDERSTANDING

God of mystery whose ways are above our ways

BORN IN OBSCURITY

God's significant work found in the obscure

