

HOPE HAS A NAME

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 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. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means, "God with us"). When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Matthew 1:18-25 (NIV)

❖ Our Hope is the SON of GOD:

... and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ.

Matthew 1:16-17 (NIV)

1. Jesus' birth was EXPECTED.
2. Jesus' birth was SUPERNATURAL.
3. Jesus' birth was DISRUPTIVE.

❖ Our Hope is IMMANUEL:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14 (NIV)

1. Jesus is GOD in the FLESH.
2. Jesus is GOD with US.
3. Jesus is GOD in US.

❖ Our Hope is JESUS:

Praise be to the Lord, to God our Salvation, who daily bears our burdens.

Psalms 68:19 (NIV)

1. Jesus is the Hebrew equivalent to the Hebrew name JOSHUA.
2. Jesus (Greek) / Joshua (Hebrew) literally means GOD is our SALVATION.

3. Jesus is fully GOD and fully MAN... He is our bridge to God.

❖ Closing Challenge: What will you do with JESUS this Christmas?