A Miraculous Birth

12-24-22

Matt. 1:18-25-¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. ²⁰ But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."²² Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US." ²⁴ And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife, ²⁵ but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.

Rom. 8:29-For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, <u>so that He would be</u> <u>the firstborn among many brethren</u>

John 1:12-13-¹² But as many as <u>received</u> Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who <u>believe</u> in His name, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. John 3:3-7-³ Jesus...said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

Titus 3:5-He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of <u>regeneration</u> [*palingenesia*] and renewing by the Holy Spirit.