**The Mission of God through the Birth of Christ**

Matthew 1:18-21

Within the scriptures, the Christmas story (the birth narrative of Jesus) gives us reason to rejoice. Because within the narrative itself we see the mission of God through birth of Christ and what emerges is the **providence of God** in the details of Jesus’s birth; the **purpose of God** in reason for Jesus birth, and then the **presence of God** in the person of Jesus.

**The Providence of God in the details of Jesus birth:** (vv1-19)

-Jesus is the culmination of the promises of God to Israel

-God’s providence includes events that we would never design, but also that God reaches out to those that who are morally messed up, and that’s us.

 **The Purpose of God in the reason for Jesus birth:** (vv. 20-21)

 -A redemptive mission and a definitive consequence (1:20-21)

-The purpose of God through the details of the birth of Christ should comfort our hearts because Jesus accomplishes the father mission of reconciling fallen humanity back to father.

**The Presence of God in the person of Jesus:** (vv. 22-25)

-Matthew sees Jesus not as a type of fulfillment but THE fulfillment of Isaiah’s Immanuel. Mary son Jesus is Immanuel, God with us….. “the with us God” of scripture

**3 Monday morning takeaways (observations) from our text today.**

1. God’s providence includes events that we would never design, and HE reaches out to those that who are morally messed up, and that’s us.
2. The purpose of God in the details of the birth Jesus (the sin and Satan conqueror, through whom the nations will be blessed, and whose kingdom and rule is universal and unending) is redemptive mission, with a definitive consequence.
3. Jesus is the “with us God” who promises to continue his presence with his people, right here, right now, and to the end of the age.