

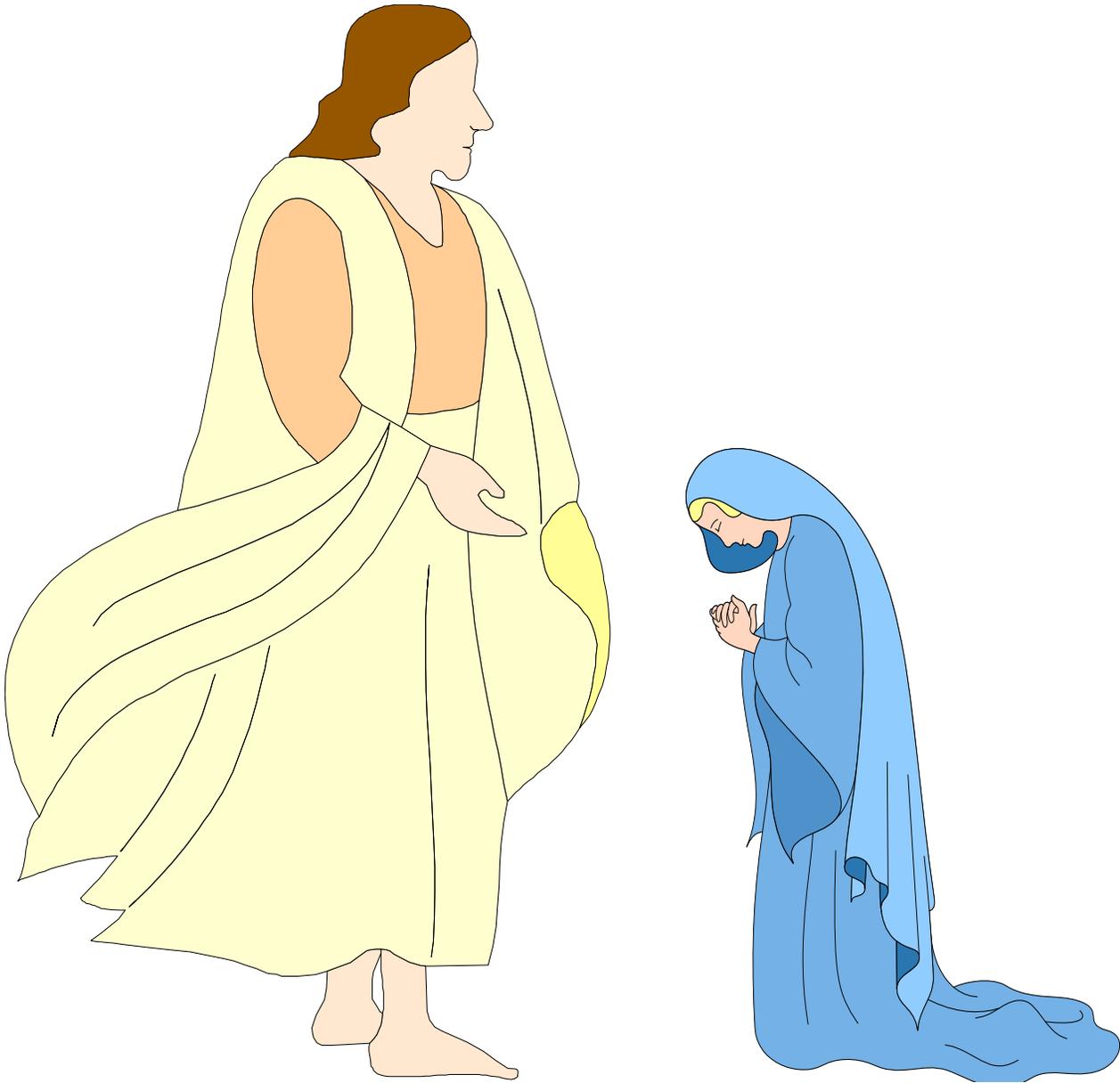
STUDY

Through the Bible

GOSPELS

Incarnation

Jesus: Conception



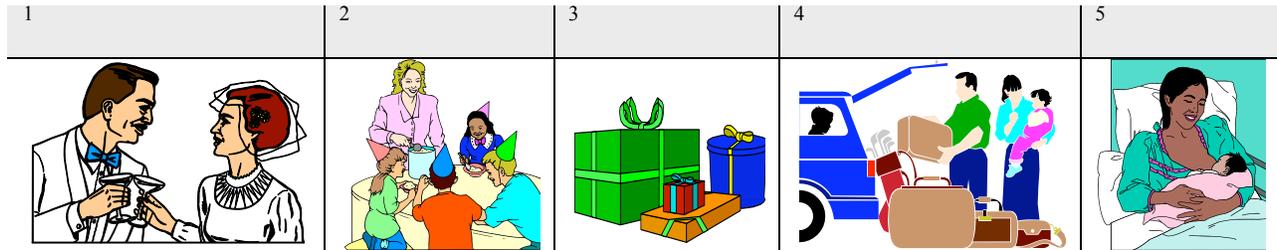
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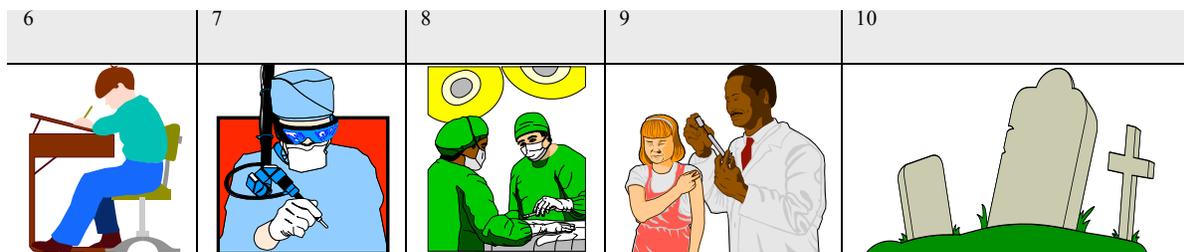
Monday: Introduction

Anticipation for something good usually adds to the enjoyment of what you are looking forward to. On the other hand, anxiety usually precedes something bad that looms in the future. What are some of your most anticipated events? anxious events?

 Label the following events (table below) that people usually **anticipate**: *birth, birthday, Christmas, marriage, vacation*



 Label the following events (table below) that people usually are **anxious** (worried) about: *death, fillings, shot, surgery, tests.*



Preview

This week you will study the most anticipated event in all of history—the birth of God’s only begotten (physically born) son. In fact, the coming of God’s son to earth was anticipated (fore-ordained) **before** the _____¹¹ (1Pet 1:18-20).

 Use the references below to fill in the blanks showing whose **seed** God’s son will (or will not) be descended from (according to O.T. prophecy).

 Use the references below to fill in the blanks showing the **significance** of each prophecy.

	Seed of:	Significance
Gen 3:15	12	no male _____ ¹³ (sperm)
Gal 3:16-18	14	by _____ ¹⁵ , not performance
Gen 17:19	16	_____ ¹⁷
1Chr 17:10-14	18	establish his _____ ¹⁹
Isa 7:14	_____ ²⁰	no human _____ ²¹

Bible Reading: Luke 1

Meditation verse: Isa 7:14



Write the *meditation verse* on the back of the 3X5 card.

Substantiation: Elisabeth

- **Vs 36:** What was the *proof* that this would happen? _____⁴⁵
- **Vs 37:** Who was the only one *qualified* to accomplish this? _____⁴⁶

Submission: Mary

- **Vs 38:** What words show Mary's *submission*? _____⁴⁷ What words show Mary's *faith*? _____⁴⁸

 Write 'Birth of Jesus announced: *Mary*' for Luke 1:26-38 under *Event* on the *Harmony of the Gospels* outline.

Bible Reading: Matt 1

Meditation Verse: Luke 1:37

 Write the *meditation verse* on the back of a 3 X 5 card.

 Review the previous *meditation verses*.

Wednesday: Genealogy: *physical (Mary)*

The conception of Jesus involved both a *natural* process (through his human mother) and a *supernatural* process (through his heavenly Father—God). The *human genealogy* through Mary is recorded in Luke 3:23b-38.

 Fill in the table to show the contrast between Jesus' *human* and *heavenly* genealogy.

Natural: <i>human mother</i>		Supernatural: <i>heavenly father</i>	
Luke 1:30-31	son (of _____ ⁴⁹)	Luke 1:35	Son of _____ ⁵⁰
Luke 3:23-38	through _____ ⁵¹ (vs 31)	Matt 1:1-16	through _____ ⁵² (vs 6)
Luke 1:31	_____ ⁵³ Jesus	Luke 1:35	holy thing: _____ ⁵⁴ (Mt 1:23)
Title:	Son of <i>man</i>	Title:	Son of <i>God</i>

Mary's genealogy is linked to David (vs. 31) and Abraham (vs. 34), just like Joseph's in Matt 1. However, Mary's genealogy went through David's son *Nathan* (instead of *Solomon*) The need for this difference is shown in Jer 22:28-30. One of David's descendants (vs. 28 _____⁵⁵ or Jeconiah) is cursed for his sin against God. Vs. 30 says he will be _____⁵⁶ and will not _____⁵⁷, nor any of his _____⁵⁸. More specifically, none of his seed (children) shall sit upon the _____⁵⁹, nor _____⁶⁰ in Judah. This explains why Jesus could be physically related to Mary but not to Joseph. If Joseph was his physical father he would be excluded from reigning over Israel. But since Joseph was his "adoptive" father Jesus was legally qualified to be king.

There are many false beliefs about Mary. So, lest you think she was something supernatural (as some religions claim) God records a few more details about her in the Bible.

 Put an 'X' in the boxes below for each statement that is *false*.

- Mary had *no other children* after Jesus (Matt 13:55-56)
- Mary '*outranked*' other people (Matt 12:46-50)
- Mary '*outranked*' Jesus (John 2:4)
- Mary *intercedes* in prayer for sinners (Rom 8:34)

 Write *Genealogy of Jesus* for Luke 1:1-17 and Luke 3:23-38 under *Event* on the *Harmony of the Gospels* outline.

Meditation Verse: Luke 1:31

 Write the *meditation verse* on the back of a 3 X 5 card.

 Review the previous *meditation verses*.

Thursday: Genealogy: *legal (Joseph)*

Yesterday, you studied the genealogy of Jesus through *Mary*—his earthly mother. Today, you will study the genealogy of Jesus through *Joseph*—his adoptive father—as recorded in Matt 1:1-17.

1 **Generation:** *children*

The genealogy of Matthew begins in an unusual way (vs. 1). What is different about how it is worded than others (Gen 5:1, 6:9, 10:1, 11:10, 11:27, 25:12, 19, 36:1, 37:2)?⁶¹ Why is *one generation* important?⁶²

2 **Men:** *heredity*

Next, Matthew links Jesus to *two men*: _____, _____ (vs 1).⁶³ Why are they important? God links Jesus to them in order to show that his work transcends heredity (not all their seed were blessed—only those who followed God).

 Fill in the table below to show the comparison between *Abraham* and *David*.

	Abraham	David
1. Matt 3:9		
2. Luke 20:41-44	1. _____ : ⁶⁴ <i>family</i>	2. _____ : ⁶⁵ <i>kingdom</i>
3. Gen 17:23-26	3. _____ : ⁶⁶ <i>righteous</i>	4. _____ : ⁶⁷ <i>rule</i>
4. 1Sam 16:13	spiritual	political

3 **Periods:** *history*

In vs. 2-16 Matthew distinguishes *three periods* of history for Israel. Each of them seems to have a different focus, showing that God’s work transcends time and circumstances.

 Fill in the blanks below to show the different *periods*.

- **Vs 2-6a:** _____ - _____⁶⁸ (Patriarchal)
- **Vs 6b-11:** _____ - _____⁶⁹ (national)
- **Vs 12-16:** _____ - _____⁷⁰ (spiritual)

4 **Women:** *grace*

Matthew’s genealogy is also different in one other interesting aspect—it contains *four women* in the line of Jesus (Jewish genealogies rarely if ever list women). An even more interesting feature of these women is that each of them was “*stained*” in some way. By including them in the genealogy of Jesus God shows that his mercy and compassion transcends man’s sin.

 Fill in the first column below with the names of the *four women*.

 Fill in the second column with the *sin* they were guilty of: *adultery, harlot, incest*

Vs.	Woman	Sin	Significance
3	_____ ⁷¹	Gen 38 _____ ⁷²	ravages of sin
5	_____ ⁷³	Josh 2:1 _____ ⁷⁴	relation of faith
5	_____ ⁷⁵	Gen 19:30-38 _____—origin ⁷⁶	redemption
6	_____ ⁷⁷	2Sam 11:1-4 _____ ⁷⁸	remembrance of sin

Bible Reading: Luke 3

Meditation Verse: ???

 Write the *meditation verse* on the back of a 3 X 5 card.

 Review the previous *meditation verses*.

Friday: Announcement: Joseph

Tuesday you studied the announcement of Jesus' birth to *Mary*—his earthly mother. Today, you will study the announcement to *Joseph*—his adoptive father—in Matt 1.

- **Vs 18:** What was Mary's *relationship* to Joseph? _____⁷⁹ What does that mean? _____⁸⁰
- **Vs 19:** What was Joseph's *relationship* to Mary? _____⁸¹ (apparently, they were considered husband and wife during the espousal period) What was his *standing* with God? _____⁸² What does being 'just' mean in the Bible?⁸³ What did he want to *do* (_____⁸⁴) and *why* (_____⁸⁵)? What was the proper action according to the *law of Moses* (Deut 22: 23-24)? _____⁸⁶
- **Vs 20-21:** Who *appeared* to Joseph? *the* _____⁸⁷ Why does it say 'the' and not 'an' angel?⁸⁸ *How* did the angel appear to Joseph? _____⁸⁹ What *title* did the angel use for Joseph? _____⁹⁰ Why?⁹¹ What does the angel call *Mary*? _____⁹² What does 'take unto thee' mean?⁹³ What *shocking information* does the angel reaffirm? _____⁹⁴ (vs 20) _____⁹⁵ (vs 21) What *commandment* is Joseph given? _____⁹⁶ Why does his name *signify*? _____⁹⁷
- **Vs 22-23:** *Why* did all this happen? _____⁹⁸ What *name* does the prophet use instead of JESUS? _____⁹⁹ Why the difference?¹⁰⁰ What does the name *mean*? _____¹⁰¹ Where is this *prophecy* from? _____¹⁰²
- **Vs 24-25:** *When* did Joseph have the dream? _____¹⁰³ Did he *obey*?¹⁰⁴ What does it mean he '*knew her not*'? _____¹⁰⁵

Most people assume that Mary became pregnant several months before she was married to Joseph (thus bringing shame and reproach on her for getting pregnant out of wedlock) but that is not necessarily the case. In fact, nothing in the Bible indicates others suspected what had happened. A careful analysis of the events and their possible timing shows it's quite possible Mary became pregnant almost immediately before getting married to Joseph.

Dec 25? ¹⁰⁶ Luke 1:26-38	Dec 26? ¹⁰⁷ Matt 1:18-23	Dec 27? ¹⁰⁸ Matt 1:24-25
Conceived: <i>announcement to Mary</i>	Confirmed: <i>announcement to Joseph</i>	Consecrated: <i>united in marriage</i>

One puzzling thing about this scenario is why Mary would leave Joseph immediately after getting married to go visit Elisabeth for three months (not likely in today's culture). But perhaps this

is a very practical solution to a very real problem—their need to remain chaste (no sex) until Jesus was born (Matt 1:25).

Scripture also seems to confirm the above scenario in its *silence* as to Jesus' origin:

- Was Jesus ever *accused* of being illegitimate?¹⁰⁹
- Was Jesus *rejected* by the Jewish leaders because he was illegitimate?¹¹⁰

IF Jesus was *conceived* on Dec. 25 (NOT born),¹¹¹ when was John the Baptist born?¹¹²

 Write *June 25* under *Time* for 'John the Baptist: *conceived*' on the *Harmony of the Gospels* outline.

 Write 'Birth of Jesus announced: *Joseph*' for Matt 1:18-23 under *Event* on the *Harmony of the Gospels* outline.

Meditation Verse: Matt 1:24-25

 Write the *meditation verse* on the back of a 3 X 5 card.

 Review the previous *meditation verses*.

Sunday: Song of Mary

The next thing Mary did was to go see the miracle God had done in Elisabeth’s life (which you studied last week—Luke 1:39-40). This was exactly what she needed to confirm God’s promise to her. She was also encouraged by the words of Elisabeth concerning her condition (vs. 42-45). At that point Mary responds with a “song” of her own (vs. 46-55).

 Fill in the table below to show the two aspects of Mary’s song: *soul* and *spirit*.

_____ : ¹¹³ <i>mental</i>	_____ : ¹¹⁴ <i>emotional</i>
Vs. 46 magnify the _____ ¹¹⁵	Vs. 47 rejoiced in _____ ¹¹⁶
Vs. 48 regarded the low estate of his _____ ¹¹⁷	Vs. 47 my _____ ¹¹⁸

 Write the following things in the table below to show what needs to be *magnified*: *atoms, birds, insects, stars, text, watch*.

119	120	121	122	123	124
					

Mary’s song seems to focus on a contrast that often appears in the Bible—*lowliness* versus *exaltation*.

- What phrase shows her *humility*? _____¹²⁵
- What phrase shows God’s *blessing*? _____¹²⁶

 Use the following verses to fill in the blanks below showing the contrast between *humility* and *pride*: Luke 9:48, 22:26 (2X), Matt 5:11-12, 19:30, 20:27, 1Pet 5:6

Low estate (handmaid)	_____ ¹²⁷	_____ ¹²⁸	servant	persecuted	_____ ¹²⁹	younger
done to me great things	first	great	_____ ¹³⁰	_____ ¹³¹	exalted	_____ ¹³²

Mary humbled herself so God exalted her. Unfortunately, fallen man usually has it backwards from Mary.

 Put a checkmark (✓) in the box if it shows a humble attitude or an ‘X’ if it does not.

- Vs. 50:** And his mercy *is* on ***them that fear him*** from generation to generation.
- Vs. 51:** He hath shewed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the ***proud*** in the imagination of their hearts.
- Vs. 52a:** He hath put down the ***mighty*** from *their* seats, ...
- Vs. 52b:** ... and exalted ***them of low degree***.
- Vs. 53a:** He hath filled the ***hungry*** with good things; ...
- Vs. 53b:** ... and the ***rich*** he hath sent empty away.
- Vs. 54-55:** He hath holpen ***his servant Israel***, in remembrance of *his* mercy; ⁵⁵As he spake to our fathers, to Abraham, and to his seed for ever.

 Write *Song of Mary* for Matt 1:46-55 on the ***Harmony of the Gospels*** outline.

Conclusion

A vital fact you need to understand is the contrast between two titles used for Jesus: *Son of man* and *Son of God*. Each had specific significance for Jesus and his ministry.

Son of man: human nature		Son of God: divine nature	
133	Prophet	John 1:1	134
135	Priest	John 1:29	136
		John 6:35	137
		John 8:12	138
139	King	Rev 5:5	140

Son of man: human nature

Jesus' human genealogy (through Mary) made him fully human (though without sin since he had no human father). The title, ***Son of Man*** (related to his human nature), is evident in the three roles he fulfilled: *prophet, priest, king*.

 Write the following verses in the correct blank above for the role it describes and then use them to answer the questions: *Deut 18:15-19, 2Sam 7:12-18, Heb 2:14-18*.

- **Prophet:** How do you know he was *human*? _____ 141
 Who *pictured* the Prophet to come? _____ 142 Why did Israel want a Prophet to speak to them (instead of God)? _____ 143
 How would God use the Prophet? _____ 144

- Priest:** What did he need to *partake of*? _____¹⁴⁵ What did he *accomplish*? _____¹⁴⁶
 _____, _____¹⁴⁷ How did he do it? _____¹⁴⁸
 How do you know he was *human*? _____¹⁴⁹ How was he *made*? _____¹⁵⁰
 _____¹⁵¹ Why was that *important*? _____¹⁵²
 What did that make *possible*? _____¹⁵³
 What did his humanity *cause*? _____¹⁵⁴ Why was that *good*? _____¹⁵⁵
 _____¹⁵⁶
- King:** Whose *seed* will he be? _____¹⁵⁷ What will God *do* for him? _____¹⁵⁸
 _____, _____¹⁵⁹ What will be God's
relationship to him? _____¹⁶⁰

Son of God: divine nature

Jesus' "heavenly" genealogy (through God) made him fully God (but he was still fully human because of his physical birth through Mary). Since there was no human father, it is quite appropriate to call Jesus the *Son of God*, conceived by and filled with the power of the Holy Ghost.

 Use the verses in the table above to fill in the blanks showing how Jesus *fulfilled* his three roles as *Son of man*.

The dual human/divine nature of Jesus is shown in many other scriptures as well.

 Use the verses in the table below to show Jesus as the *Son of man* and the *Son of God*.

Vs.	Father	Son
John 1:14		_____ ¹⁵⁷
		made _____ ¹⁵⁸
	Father	the only _____ ¹⁵⁹
Phil 2:5-8		in the _____ ¹⁶⁰
	with God	_____ ¹⁶¹
		the form of a _____ ¹⁶²
		made in the _____ ¹⁶³
		in _____ ¹⁶⁴
1Tim 3:16	God	manifest in the _____ ¹⁶⁵
Heb 1:1-14	God	<i>his</i> _____ ¹⁶⁶
	of <i>his</i> glory	the _____ ¹⁶⁷
	of his person	the _____ ¹⁶⁸
	the Majesty on high	Thou art my _____ ¹⁶⁹

	I have _____ ¹⁷⁰ thee
Father	_____ ¹⁷¹
God	the _____ ¹⁷²
	the _____ ¹⁷³
	O _____ ¹⁷⁴
God, <i>even</i> thy God	_____ ¹⁷⁵
Heb 2:14-18	Partaker of _____ ¹⁷⁶
	took on <i>him</i> the _____ ¹⁷⁷
	made like unto <i>his</i> _____ ¹⁷⁸
God	merciful and faithful _____ ¹⁷⁹

Key

- 1 marriage
- 2 birthday
- 3 Christmas
- 4 vacation
- 5 birth
- 6 tests
- 7 fillings
- 8 surgery
- 9 shot
- 10 death
- 11 foundation of the world
- 12 woman
- 13 seed
- 14 Abraham
- 15 promise
- 16 Isaac
- 17 everlasting covenant
- 18 David
- 19 kingdom
- 20 virgin
- 21 father
- 22 6th month
- 23 Gabriel
- 24 Nazareth
- 25 Mary
- 26 virgin
- 27 espoused
- 28 David
- 29 highly favoured
- 30 the Lord *is* with thee
- 31 blessed
- 32 fear not
- 33 thou hast found favour with God
- 34 thou shalt bring forth a son
- 35 JESUS
- 36 great, Son of the Highest: throne of his father David
- 37 for ever
- 38 no end
- 39 troubled
- 40 cast in her mind (considered)
- 41 I know not a man
- 42 virgin
- 43 The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, power of the Highest shall overshadow thee
- 44 it/he was unlike any "thing" before or after—the Son of God
- 45 Elisabeth hath conceived a son in her old age
- 46 God
- 47 handmaid of the Lord
- 48 according to thy word
- 49 Mary
- 50 God
- 51 Nathan
- 52 Solomon
- 53 son

54 Emmanuel
55 Coniah
56 childless
57 prosper
58 seed
59 throne of David
60 rule
61 generation—singular
62 there are no grandchildren in God’s family, only children
63 David, Abraham
64 Father
65 Lord
66 circumcised
67 anointed
68 Abraham-David
69 David-captivity
70 Captivity-Christ
71 Tamar
72 harlot
73 Rahab
74 harlot
75 Ruth
76 incest
77 Bathsheba (*the* wife of Urias)
78 adultery
79 espoused
80 engaged—but with more responsibility probably (see vs 19)
81 husband
82 just
83 *enough*—not too much, not too little?
84 put her away privily/privately
85 not willing to make her a public example
86 stoned/die
87 angel
88 “*the*” same angel that appeared to Zacharias and Mary—*Gabriel*
89 dream
90 son of David
91 it was Joseph’s right to the throne of Israel
92 Joseph’s wife
93 go from espoused to fully married
94 that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost
95 she shall bring forth a son
96 call his name JESUS
97 he shall save his people from their sins
98 fulfilled prophecy
99 Emmanuel
100 *Mary and Joseph* will call him Jesus; *they* (Israel?) shall call him Emmanuel
101 God with us
102 Isa 7:14
103 sleep
104 yes
105 no sexual relationship (Gen 4:1)
106 speculation. Jesus almost certainly *wasn’t* born on Dec 25, so whose birthday is it? (the antichrist?) What better time for the antichrist to be born than on the same day Jesus was conceived?
107 The night before their scheduled wedding?
108 The actual wedding day
109 no
110 no

¹¹¹ most Bible students believe that Jesus was NOT born on Dec. 25: 1. The shepherds wouldn't have been in the fields that late. 2. The Bible gives no definite indication when it happened. So who WAS born on that day? Perhaps the antichrist.

¹¹² June 25

¹¹³ soul

¹¹⁴ spirit

¹¹⁵ Lord

¹¹⁶ God

¹¹⁷ handmaiden

¹¹⁸ Savior

¹¹⁹ text

¹²⁰ stars

¹²¹ watch

¹²² atoms

¹²³ birds

¹²⁴ insects

¹²⁵ low estate of his handmaiden

¹²⁶ done to me great things

¹²⁷ Last

¹²⁸ least

¹²⁹ humble

¹³⁰ chief

¹³¹ reward

¹³² greatest

¹³³ Deut 18:15-19

¹³⁴ Word

¹³⁵ Heb 2:14-18

¹³⁶ Lamb

¹³⁷ Bread of life

¹³⁸ Light

¹³⁹ 2Sam 7:12-17

¹⁴⁰ Lion of the tribe of Judah

¹⁴¹ from the midst of thee, of thy brethren (vs 15)

¹⁴² Moses (vs 15, 18)

¹⁴³ if they heard the voice of God they might die (vs 16)

¹⁴⁴ I will put my words in his mouth

¹⁴⁵ flesh and blood (vs 14)

¹⁴⁶ destroy the devil; deliver "captives" (vs 14-15)

¹⁴⁷ death

¹⁴⁸ seed of Abraham (vs 16)

¹⁴⁹ like his brethren (vs 17)

¹⁵⁰ that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest (vs 17)

¹⁵¹ make reconciliation for the sins of the people

¹⁵² suffered being tempted

¹⁵³ he is able to succour (help) them that are tempted

¹⁵⁴ David (vs 12)

¹⁵⁵ establish his kingdom, stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever (vs 12, 13, 16)

¹⁵⁶ Father

¹⁵⁷ Word

¹⁵⁸ flesh

¹⁵⁹ begotten

¹⁶⁰ form of God

¹⁶¹ equal

¹⁶² servant

¹⁶³ likeness of men

¹⁶⁴ fashion as a man

¹⁶⁵ flesh

¹⁶⁶ Son

167 brightness
168 express image
169 Son
170 begotten
171 Son
172 firstbegotten
173 Son
174 God
175 Lord
176 flesh and blood
177 seed of Abraham
178 brethren
179 high priest