

# Ridin' High Cowboy Church

8771 FM 35  
Union Valley, TX

Pastor: Steve Bishop

## MISSION STATEMENT

*Ride out and round up the lost cowboys and cowgirls  
Everywhere so they can know our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

### **December 13, 2015 - Promises Kept**

There are over 450 prophecies about the birth of Jesus in the Old Testament, and they all came true...and right now, we're going to look at one of them and in the process cover about 2,750 years...

**Matthew 1:18-25** **18** *This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph (their parents planned their marriage, they may not have even met before) **but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant, through the Holy Spirit.** 19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, (she should have been stoned) **and yet he did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.** (marriage was not an option for Joseph).*

**20** *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. 21 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."*

**22** *All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel." (which means "God with us").* When the prophet Isaiah said these words, 735 years before the birth of Jesus, they made no sense to anybody and had no impact on the person they were said to.

### **Isaiah 7:11-12**

Behind the story, Israel is divided into two countries, North (Israel) South (Judah), Aram joined with North and wanted the S to join them and attack Assyria before Assyria attacked them, but they were going to take control of the South Kingdom either way. Ahaz the King of the South kingdom was nervous, his kingdom controlled Jerusalem and the Jewish faith, and in their minds God was at stake if Jerusalem fell.

**11** *Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."* Isaiah told Ahaz to return to God and to ask God for

a sign that he was with him, to do something so unusual that it could only be God. In the past, God had turned rivers into blood, he made the sun stand still, and angels appeared and destroyed whole armies.

**12 But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”** He had already sent a bribe to Assyria and put his trust in them rather than in God.

### **2 Kings 16:7-9**

**7 Ahaz sent messengers to say to Tiglath-Pileser, king of Assyria, “I am your servant and vassal. Come up and save me out of the hand of the king of Aram and of the king of Israel, who are attacking me.” 8 And Ahaz took the silver and gold found in the temple of the LORD and in the treasuries of the royal palace and sent it as a gift to the king of Assyria. 9 The king of Assyria complied by attacking Damascus and capturing it. He deported its inhabitants to Kir and put Rezin to death.**

Back to Isaiah

**13 Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also?”**

**14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign:**

(Ahaz if you don't want to pick a sign, God will pick one for you) God had made a deal with Israel that he would be their God ;no matter if they wanted him or not.

***The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and you will call him Emmanuel*** (God with us). The word virgin means a young, unmarried woman, when they heard this they expected more, this is not a sign, this happens all the time, they thought it would be one of God's great miracles to save them today.

**Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be upon his shoulders, and he will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God.**

Later the Assyrians came in and took over what we know as Israel, then the Babylonians took over, then the Persians took over, then Alexander and the Greeks took over, then the Romans.

King Ahaz was long forgotten and the prophecies of Isaiah were just history without any means for today (so they thought). The Jewish people thought they had been forgotten, no army, no money.

730 years later, when the time was just right, God sent an angel to Mary and said you're the girl and he came to Joseph in a dream...

**Matthew 1:24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. 25 But he did not**

***consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name, Jesus.***

The girl that caused you so much embarrassment and problems is the one I chose. When you get weary in a job, marriage, life, don't turn your back on God, but push back from the circumstances and go outside and look around and say, "If you can do all this, I will put my HOPE in you."

There is no benefit to walking away from God. We have all been there and it does not work out, the only winning situation is for us to lean into God (hope).

God is most honored and glorified when we live as if he is active when we don't see him at work all around us.

735 years later, Paul wrote **9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**

We look at the second hand of the clock and God is looking at the calendar, we think God is late, but he always right on time.

### **God's Promises**

1. He has promised to supply every need we have. The Bible says, "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." That's Philippians 4:19. Now notice, God has obligated Himself only to the extent of our needs. That would include food, clothing, shelter, companionship, love, and salvation through Jesus Christ. It would not include the multiplicity of luxuries that we have come to think of as needs.
2. God has promised that His grace is sufficient for us (II Corinthians 12:9).
3. God has promised that His children will not be overtaken with temptation. Instead, He assures us that a way of escape will be provided. This promise is recorded in I Corinthians 10:13).
4. God has promised us victory over death. "but thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (I Corinthians 15:57).
5. God has promised that all things work together for good to those who love and serve Him faithfully (Romans 8:28) It may be difficult for us to see and understand how this is accomplished at times, but God has promised it, and He will deliver.
6. God has promised that those who believe in Jesus and are baptized for the forgiveness of sins will be saved. (Read Mark 16:16 and Act 2:38).
7. God has promised His people eternal life (John 10:27, 28). In closing, let me appeal to you to live so that the promises of God will be yours.