



(I N) B R E A K I N G

JESUS AND THE LONGING OF EVERY HUMAN HEART

¹⁸ "Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly...

MATTHEW 1:18-25

... ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from 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' ...

MATTHEW 1:18-25

... ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel' (which means, God with us) ...

MATTHEW 1:18-25

... ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus."

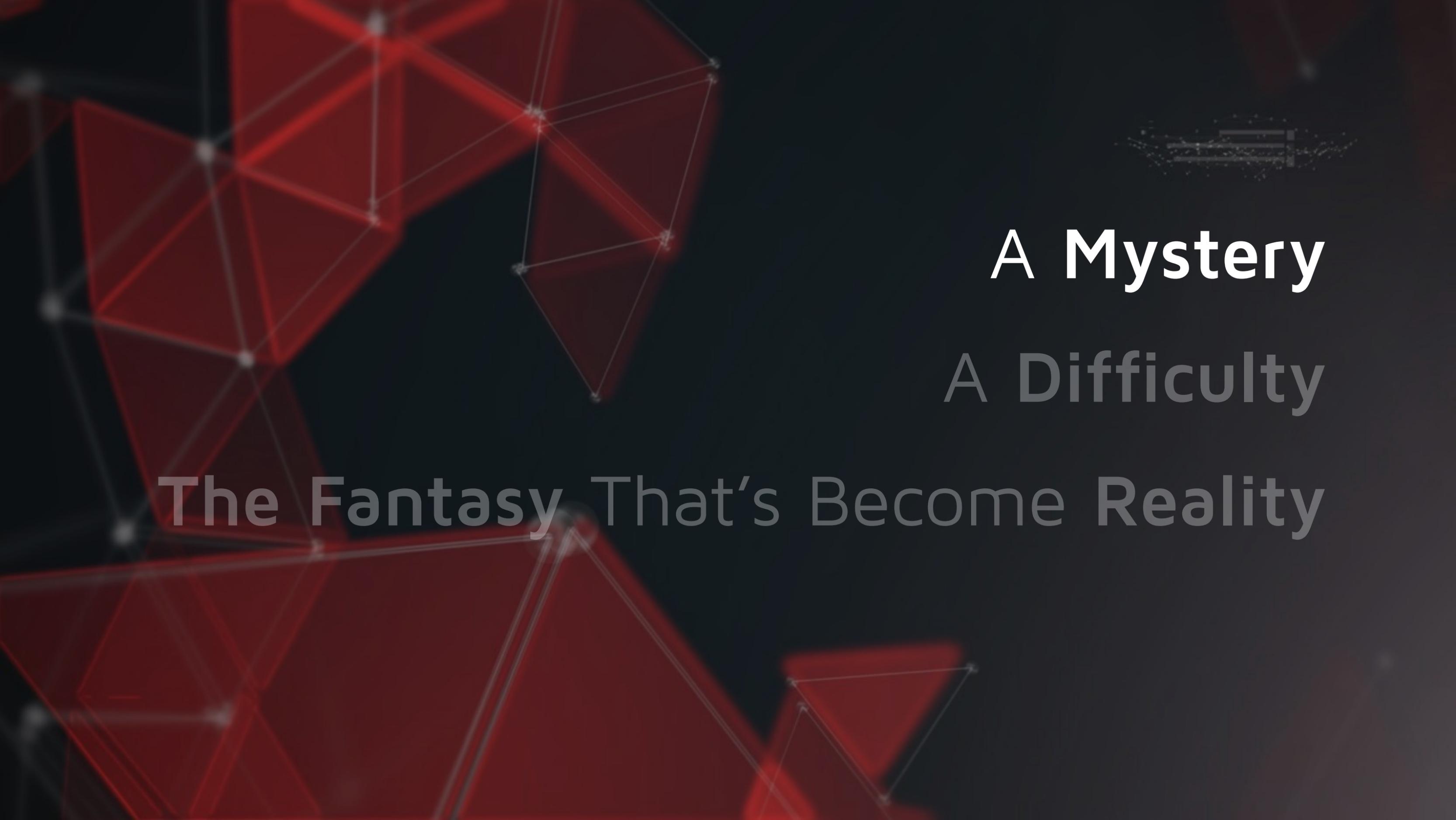
MATTHEW 1:18-25



A Mystery

A Difficulty

The Fantasy That's Become Reality



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- 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:
- 23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).



MATTHEW 1:22-23

"She [Mary] will bear a son, and
you shall call his name Jesus."

MATTHEW 1:21

²⁴ "When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,
²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus."

MATTHEW 1:24-25

"God is God. Because he is God, He is worthy of my trust and obedience. I will find rest nowhere but in His holy will that is unspeakably beyond my largest notions of what he is up to. He never withholds from His child that which His love and wisdom call good. God's refusals are always merciful—'severe mercies' at times, but mercies all the same. ...

ELISABETH ELLIOT

... God never denies us our heart's desire except
to give us something better."

ELISABETH ELLIOT



A Mystery

A Difficulty

The Fantasy That's Become Reality

What do you think that **God thinks**
that **humanity's basic need** is?

"She will bear a son, and you shall call
his name Jesus...

MATTHEW 1:21

"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

MATTHEW 1:21

Δ DIFFICULTY

▶ Truthiness

"And that brings us to tonight's word:
truthiness. ...

STEPHEN COLBERT

... Now, I'm sure some of the Word Police, the 'wordanistas' over at Webster's, are gonna say, 'Hey, that's not a word.' Well, anybody who knows me knows that I'm no fan of dictionaries or reference books. They are elitist. Constantly telling us what is or isn't true, or what did or didn't happen. Who's Britannica to tell me the Panama Canal was finished in 1914? If I wanna say it happened in 1941, that's my right. I don't trust books. They're all fact, not heart."

STEPHEN COLBERT

Δ DIFFICULTY

- ▶ Truthiness
- ▶ Wikiality

Wikiality: "reality as determined
by majority vote"

STEPHEN COLBERT

"Together we can create a
reality we can all agree on.
The reality we just agreed on."

STEPHEN COLBERT

Δ DIFFICULTY

- ▶ Truthiness
- ▶ Wikiality
- ▶ Mistakers

"A revival of the conscious sense of guilt and repentance. In short, I call for a revival of sin. The assumption that there is sin implies both the possibility and an obligation for intervention. We want to help others, and ourselves and hence sin is the only hopeful view ...

KARL MENNINGER
WHATEVER BECAME OF SIN?

... When evil appears around us and no one is responsible, no one is guilty, no moral questions are asked, then there is, in short, nothing to do—so we sink to despairing hopelessness. Therefore, the consequence of my proposal would not be more depression, but less."

KARL MENNINGER
WHATEVER BECAME OF SIN?

"I believe in God. I'm not a religious fanatic. I can't remember the last time I went to church. My faith has carried me a long way. It's 'Sheilaism.' Just my own little voice."

SHEILA QUOTED BY ROBERT BELLAH



A Mystery

A Difficulty

The Fantasy That's Become Reality

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ
took place in this way."

MATTHEW 1:18



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