



# “Conflict”

The Epic Christmas Story  
 A Great Cause – The Pursuit of All Mankind!  
 Overwhelming **Conflict** - Opposition to your cause!  
 Climactic Resolution

*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.’ 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). 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 1:20

**Obedience**

- Luke 1:38 - "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word."
- Matthew 1:24 - "When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife...."

**Conflict Before the Fall**

*18” Then the LORD God said, ‘It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.’ 19 Now out of the ground the LORD God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22 And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23 Then the man said, ‘This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.’”* Genesis 2:18-23

Breaking Silence Series / Week 2

Pastor Scott Stevens

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## "You brood of vipers!"

*10” And the crowds asked him, ‘What then shall we do?’ 11 And he answered them, ‘Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.’ 12 Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, ‘Teacher, what shall we do?’ 13 And he said to them, ‘Collect no more than you are authorized to do.’ 14 Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what shall we do?’ And he said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.’”*

Luke 3:10-14

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### Small Group Questions

1. Scott said that one of his fears in life is getting to the end and wishing he would have ‘pursued a grander story, aligned his heart with what mattered most to God.’ Have you ever felt that?
2. Great causes involve relationships, sacrifice, and love. Agree? Do the current ‘causes’ in your life share these components?
3. What are some of the current ‘conflicts’ in your life? How are you working through it?