



The Crime of Christmas

Fact or Fiction: The Virgin Birth?

With God nothing is impossible...(Luke 1:37)

No other event in history has the significance of the birth of Jesus. All that God accomplishes through Jesus the Messiah would not be possible without the miracle of the virgin birth. (See John 18:36-38)

A. If The Virgin Birth Is A Myth

What if Jesus was born of a natural father—Joseph!

1. Nature of Adam: He would have inherited the Adamic nature of the human race and His death would not have been vicarious or substitutionary. (Jesus humanity was sinless. Mary, a sinner [Luke 1:47], gave birth to one who was NOT 'in Adam' as she was—nor needed a savior as she did.)

2. A finite good guy: He would have been merely a sincere and zealous 'finite' religious leader. If He had a human father He could not have been the 'only begotten' of the Father.

3. The Bible would be unreliable: If the Word cannot be trusted on such a crucial matter then all religious faith is suspect.

4. Miracles impossible: There would be NO miracle of Jesus incarnation and resurrection and the angel could not have said to Mary, "With God nothing is impossible."

5. Old Testament also false: The Old Testament sacrificial system and priesthood would have been of little value in foreshadowing the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." John 1:29.

6. There would be no second coming: Only the preexistent Word of God will come as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. See Revelation 1:7-8

B. If The Virgin Birth Is A Fact

What does the virgin birth mean for me personally?

1. New birth: The miraculous birth of Jesus means that I can also believe in my own miraculous NEW BIRTH. John 3:3; 1:12 *"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."*

2. Work of the Holy Spirit: If the virgin conception was a work of the Holy Spirit—then I can trust the work the Holy Spirit in my life. Eph 1:13

"In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise."

3. Remaining fruit: Mary brought forth a son—the 'fruit' of the work of God in accomplishing the purposes of God. Likewise God calls us to a life of fruitfulness. John 15:16a

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain." (See also Gal 5:22-23)

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people." Luke 2:10

Matthew 1:18-25 (KJV)

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.

20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,

23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:

25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

What can you do in the next two weeks to make Christmas memorable for someone else? Consider...

1. Worship Fully: Be fully engaged in doing for others and being the light.

2. Spend Less: Break the materialistic crime of Christmas by spending less.

3. Give More: By spending less you can give more to missions and those in need.

4. Love All: Have you loved and prayed for the ones who everyone else hates?