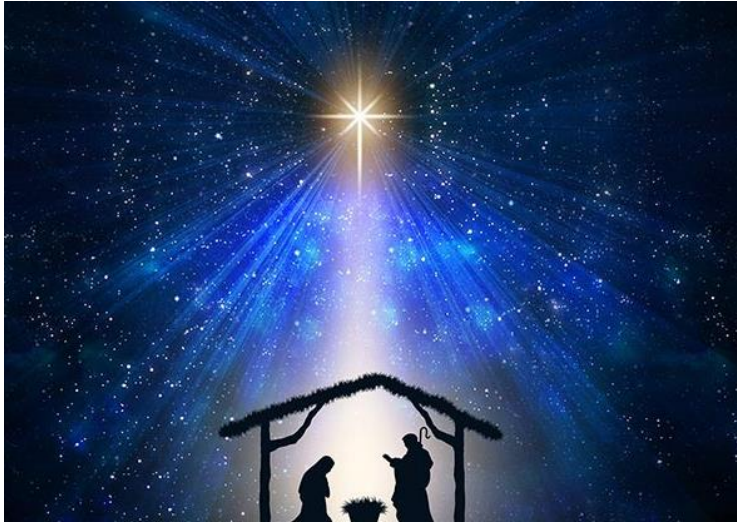


## Comments On the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ

Pastor Kelly Sensenig



Satan and the age of skepticism and unbelief are still attacking the miraculous nature and need for the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ. Only if the Bible is a myth can one conclude that the Virgin Birth of Christ is a myth. However, the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Scriptures (2 Tim. 3:16) clearly reveals that Christ was virgin born. Without the

Virgin Birth of Christ, He would have been born an ordinary man (a sinner) and in need of a Savior. Christ Himself would have actually needed a Savior! The Virgin Birth protects the theological truths of Christ deity (He was God incarnate) and Christ's impeccability (He was sinless). If He were not born of the Virgin Mary, He could not be sinless and God in the flesh.

John 1:18 says this of Jesus Christ:

*"No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him (exegeted God, or brought the true essence, nature, and being of God's existence out into the open with His entrance into the world).*

Luke 2:4-5 protects the Virgin Birth:

*"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child."*

The fact that Mary was "espoused" to Joseph protects Christ's deity and reminds us that Jesus was the Godman and God incarnate (in human flesh) when He entered this world of humanity. In verse five we read how "Mary his espoused wife." Luke

the doctor and evangelist calls Joseph's and Mary's relationship a betrothal. This is significant for in Jewish custom the betrothal period was a time when the two partners were married legally by contract (Deut. 20:7; 22:23, 25, 28) but they were not sexually or physically tied together which was the consummation of the marriage (Matt. 25:1-12). This physical union came six months after betrothal. During the betrothal period Mary was Joseph's legal wife (Matt. 1:20, 24). However, even though the two were husband and wife the marriage was not yet consummated by sexual relations (Matt. 1:18 – "before they came together").

Matthew 1:25 finally states:

"And (Joseph) knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name Jesus."

Joseph did not have any physical relations with Mary until she had given birth to Jesus. This is the reason Luke mentions Mary as only being "betrothed" to Joseph. This careful description speaks to us of the virgin birth of Jesus Christ. It points to the divinity (deity) of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ was not born of man. The blood of sinful man did not flow through His veins. Although this was human blood, at the same time it was considered to be God's blood (Acts 20:28), and it was God who had supernaturally kept the blood of Christ from being tainted with Adamic sin. Apparently, sin is passed down through the bloodline of the man and therefore God had to provide a miraculous birth and bloodline that was untainted by sin.

Jesus was not birthed with sin or a sin nature. He was miraculously conceived and born, and His blood was free from Adam's sin. This means that Jesus was one hundred percent God while living in the body of a man. His divinity or deity is protected by Luke's statement of betrothal. There can be no mistake about it. Jesus was pure and free from the taint of man's sin, so that He would one day become a pure and holy sacrifice for our sins and provide a satisfying sacrifice (1 John 2:1-2; 4:10) that the Father would accept as payment for our sins.

The pure and undefiled sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross (Heb. 9:14; 1 Pet. 1:19) is based upon the pure and undefiled virgin conception and birth of Christ. You cannot have one without the other. Only the Godman could die the sinner's death and make man right before God. If you take away the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ as

the liberals and modernists do, you take away God's plan for Christ to be the Savior of the world. Jesus cannot be a Savior from hell unless He was virgin born which means He was born free from the taint of man's sin. It's as simple as this! And if you don't believe in the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ then you are going to hell!

"Who is He in yonder stall,  
At whose feet the shepherds fall?  
Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
At his feet we humbly fall,  
Crown Him, crown Him Lord of all."

Luke 1:30-37 is another familiar passage guarding the Virgin Birth:

"And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible."

The Virgin Birth of Christ was the supernatural work of God! I do not think that Mary doubted the angel's words (Luke 1:34) but merely wanted to know how such an event would be accomplished. After all, no person was ever born in the world apart from human conception of both sperm and egg. In Luke 1:35 we find the answer to Mary's dilemma. The Holy Spirit would bring about the physical conception of Jesus. There was no human element attached to the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ! The Holy Spirit would create a supernatural conception in the womb of Mary through the power of the Highest (*God Himself*). God Himself, through the person of the Holy Spirit, would break the natural law of birth which He had made for the human race. Only God can break His own laws. This is because He is God! Miracles occur

when God breaks His natural laws. By the way, I believe in miracles! For I believe in God!

Luke 1:37

“For with God nothing shall be impossible.”

The Virgin Birth of Christ is not impossible since God is the God of the impossible!

Liberals say, “It can’t be!” But the Bible says, “It can be and was true!” The Bible teaches that the Virgin Birth did take place by the miraculous power and intervention of God. There is no Christmas without a Virgin Birth! There is no salvation without a Virgin Birth. This is because the virgin birth signifies that Jesus was God who was free from the taint of sin.

The Virgin Birth protects Christ’s deity, His sinless sacrifice on the cross, and our salvation. No wonder the liberals, Christ deniers, and cults want to get rid of it. Yes, this miraculous conception and virgin birth of Jesus Christ was necessary to protect Christ’s deity and preexistence as the Eternal God.

Isaiah 7:14

“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (God with us).

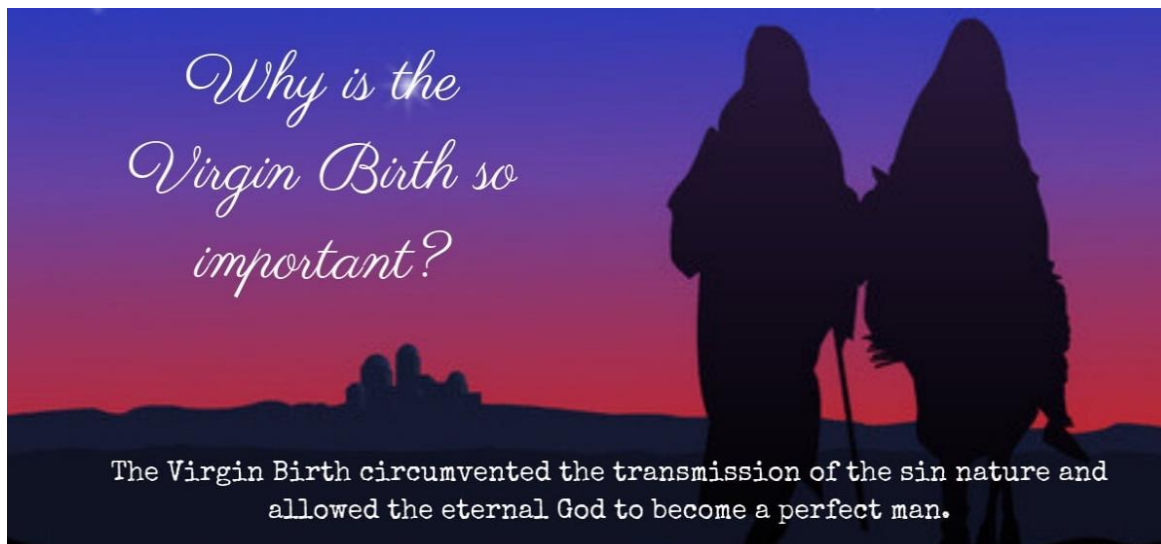
The liberals on the committee of the Revised Standard Version (RSV) of the Bible actually translated the Hebrew the word virgin (“almah”) as “young woman.” Of course, this gives the impression that Mary may not have been a virgin. They admittedly followed the lexicons of Gesenius who rejected the miraculous. The word “almah” actually means a young woman who was a virgin (a maiden who was a virgin). This is why the translators on the RSV should have translated is this way as they did in other instances (Isa. 23:12; 37:22; 47:1; 62:5). The Hebrew word “almah” represents



those who are eligible for marriage and was always referred to as a "maiden" with whom no man had had relations. (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words).

In fact, "There is no instance where it can be proven that this word designates a young woman who is not a virgin" (Thayer's Greek Lexicon and Brown Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon). The Theological Workbook of the OT also signifies this.

Matthew 1:23 gives us the right translation and real understanding of this word when it translates it properly as a "virgin." The Isaiah 7:14 Revised Standard Version translation does a great injustice to the Word of God and in particular to the virgin birth of Christ. It's an attack of modern and unbelieving scholarship to take out the virgin birth and miraculous from the Bible. I would not use the Revised Version for this reason alone among many other reasons. If you carry the Revised Version, you are carrying a Bible that is in some ways a perversion. Jesus was born of a virgin not merely of a young woman.



God's human and earthly existence as a man cannot be created by the involvement of another man since the Bible suggests that sin is transmitted through the line of man. Romans 5:12 teaches that in Adam "all have sinned." The message is clear. Because of man sin has come upon the human race. Furthermore, since Adam sinned man continues to be born a sinner by being linked to Adam's original sin. Therefore, a miraculous birth had to take place! Jesus could not be connected with Adam's sin in any way. There could be no physical linkage to any male within

the human race. God has to step into history and into the womb of a virgin woman and make something supernatural happen. He had to bring forth a conception in the darkness of a mother's womb that was untainted, unaffected, and unparalleled to all other human conceptions.

Matthew 1:23 speaks of the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy at Christ's birth: "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."

Mark this down. The baby that was born in Bethlehem was God incarnate (John 1:14, 18). This means Christ shared the divinity or deity of the Godhead with the Father. The deity of Christ is based upon the virgin conception and birth of Christ.

In denying the virgin birth of Christ a person denies the person and work of Christ. Can a true Christian deny the virgin birth? The answer to that question must be a decisive "No." Those who deny the virgin birth reject the authority of Scripture, deny the supernatural birth of the Savior, undermine the very foundations of the Gospel, and have no way of explaining the deity of Christ.

The great quest of liberal theology has been to invent a Jesus who is stripped of all supernatural power, deity and authority. If Christ was not born of a virgin, He would have inherited the sin nature of the human race, through Adam, which means He could not be our Savior. There is an absolute necessity for the virgin birth of Jesus Christ. Without a divine conception and birth, we would not have a divine solution to salvation. Without a virgin birth there would be no hope of Heaven and eternal life through Jesus Christ. This is why we sing:

"Late in time, Behold Him come  
Offspring of the virgins' womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhood see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity."

Luke 1:35 states:

"And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

The “holy thing” is a general reference to the Virgin Birth and what the Holy Spirit produced by supernatural means. In other words, the virgin conception and birth of this baby was a holy thing that God did to bring God into the human race. It was a birth that would result from a supernatural conception where no sin was transmitted through the line of man. It was free from the taint of sin! There was no sin in Jesus.

This holy birth was the physical entrance of God or Emmanuel into the world (Matt. 1:23) who was free from the infusion of man’s sin and sinful nature. There was no involvement with man in this birth.

“Gentle Mary laid her Child, Lowly in the manger;  
There He lay, The Undeified, to the world a stranger.”

"In July of 1978, a little girl named Louise Brown was born in England. At five pounds 12 ounces, Louise was a tiny baby, but what made her birth truly extraordinary was that she was conceived outside the human body. Little Louise Brown was the first 'test-tube baby.' Man touted this great accomplishment. Why? It's because man thinks that he is pretty smart. Well, I want to convey to you that man is a dunce when it comes to what God has done. God alone gives life. Man can only play around with it in test tubes. Furthermore, man cannot produce a Virgin Birth in the womb of a woman. Only God can do it and only God has done it! This is also why we sing the beloved words:



“Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin  
Mother and Child!  
Holy infant so tender  
and mild,  
Jesus Lord at Thy birth,  
Jesus Lord at Thy birth.”