

THE COMING OF JESUS, THE CHRIST

Luke 2:1-16

Part I

Introduction: Without any equivocation or legitimate disputation, the appearance of Jesus on the human landscape, and His subsequent life, revolutionized the entire world. Of all the great charismatic personalities that have stepped onto the human scene, not one of them even begins to compare to the indelible, lasting, worldwide impact that Jesus has made. The record of His birth has never lost its luster. Millions of people throughout the world continue to find salvation through faith in His Name. Any wonder the song writer wrote, "Tell me the story of Jesus; write on my heart every word; tell me the story most precious; sweetest that ever was heard."

- I. The incarnation of Christ. *"The Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who pre-existed with the Father, and by His incarnation and virgin birth, took upon Himself the form of a man and was revealed as the God-man. In the one person of Christ, there are two natures, human and divine, distinguishable but indivisible, qualifying Him to be the only true mediator between God and man. Christ was sinless, perfect, crucified, buried, resurrected, ascended, glorified, and He will come again the second time in glory and judgment."* The orthodox position concerning the person of Christ is that Christ is Truly god and truly man, and that because of the union in Him of two natures, He is the perfect mediator between God and man. *1st Timothy 2:5.*
 - A. Old Testament prophecies concerning the coming of the Messiah reveal two streams of thought. One stream spoke of the deity of Christ, while the other spoke of the humanity of Christ. The Jewish interpreters of the Old Testament could not reconcile these streams. They could not understand how the Messiah could be divine yet human. They missed the very Messiah that their Scriptures prophesied would come.
 - B. Let's look at these two important truths.
 1. The deity of Christ
 - a). *Isaiah 7:14, 9:6-9; Jeremiah 23:5-6; Micah 5:2; Psalm 2:7; Hebrews 1:8.*
 2. The humanity of Christ
 - a). *Genesis 3:15, 22:18, 26:2-4, 28:13-14; 2nd Samuel 7:12-14; Zechariah 3:8.* These references show how God singled out a man, then a nation from the man, a tribe from the nation, a house from the tribe, a virgin from the house, and thus preserved the genealogy of the Messiah as to His humanity.
 - C. The New Testament account gives us the historical fulfillment in the Gospels and then the doctrinal revelation in the epistles with God reconciling both prophetic streams. All men are begotten by a human father and born of a human mother. The Messiah was born of a human mother who was a virgin, but He was not begotten of a human father, for God would be His father. His blood then could be efficacious because it was divine. The validity and integrity of the Christian faith hinges on this fact.
 - D. Modernists may deny the virgin birth, and spiritual ignorance may state that it is of no real consequence, but the Biblical importance cannot be overestimated. It is upon the virgin birth that Biblical doctrine hangs.
 1. If Jesus was not virgin-born, He is not sinless, and then He Himself needs a Savior. If He needs salvation, then He cannot be our Savior, Lord, and King. Without Him, the entire redemptive plan falls powerless to the ground.

Conclusion: The Holy Spirit did father Jesus, and Mary did birth Him. Because of that miraculous birth, we have access to a Savior. Through faith in His Name, we are born into His family and become a child of God.