

# BIBLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Robert C. Veil, Jr.

Question: What proof is there that Jesus was actually born of a virgin?

Answer: On this question, we have the proof of the inspired writers themselves! For example, the inspired historian and physician, Luke, records in chapter 1 of his account of the Gospel: “Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary,” (Lk. 1:26-27). The wording of that passage is clear and unambiguous, and in one verse Luke twice affirms that our Lord’s birth would be to a virgin.

This was in fulfillment of recorded prophecy, written hundreds of years earlier by Isaiah: “Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel,” (Is. 7:14). Although skeptics have beat upon this verse for years, it still stands as a rock solid testament to the virgin birth of Christ.

Interestingly, the Hebrew word translated “virgin” in that verse (*almah*) appears in six other Old Testament passages. In every one of those passages, it refers each time to a virgin, and unmarried maiden, (see Gen. 24:43; Ex. 2:8; Ps. 68:25; Pr. 30:19; Song of Sol. 1:3 and 6:8).

The gospel writer, Matthew, also reaffirms the virgin birth of Christ, and specifically cites the prophecy of Isaiah as being fulfilled by it, (Mt. 1:23). John also makes clear that Jesus was in fact the son of God, (Jn. 1:1-18).

The inspired physician, Luke, also gives additional details concerning the virgin birth itself. After Mary innocently questioned how she could possibly give birth, seeing she had not had marital relations with any man, the angel provided the following information: “The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: wherefore also the holy thing which is begotten shall be called the Son of God,” (Lk. 1:35). This teaches that all three persons of the Godhead were involved in this miraculous birth.

The word “begotten” indicates fatherhood. The baby Jesus had no earthly father, but was begotten of God. Mary would later have other children, (see Mt. 1:25; 13:55-56; Mk. 6:3), but at the time Jesus was conceived, she was a virgin. The detailed genealogies, recorded in both Matthew and Luke, also bear this out.

Such was the amazing manner in which God chose to take on human form and come into this world. The virgin birth of Christ is a central part of the gospel message. It's beauty and power is intensely moving to every Christian. It means that Jesus Christ, who often referred to himself as the Son of Man, was much more than that. He was and truly is the Son of God!

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**Robert C. Veil, Jr.** has been a gospel preacher with the Church of Christ for over 40 years. He currently preaches monthly for the Broad Top Church of Christ. Submit your Bible questions to him at Central Church of Christ, 90 Waverly Court, Martinsburg, WV 25403.