

WAS JESUS CONCEIVED BY A VIRGIN?
(Matthew 1:25; Luke 1:26-27, 34)

- I. The Historical RECORD
 - A. Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 1:27-37
 - B. *The Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians*, chapter 18, early 2nd century
- II. The Factual NECESSITY
 - A. The Bible teaches the PRE-EXISTENCE of Christ (John 1:1-2; 8:58; Phil. 2:5-11)
 - 1. Jesus was fully AWARE of His pre-existence (John 8:56-58; 16:28; 17:5)
 - 2. Jesus was the CREATOR of all things (John 1:3, 10; Col. 1:15-16)
 - 3. At times in the OT He APPEARED to men (John 1:18)
 - 4. JOHN the BAPTIST testified of His pre-existence (John 1:15, 30)
 - B. Bible prophecy DEMANDED the coming of the pre-existent Jesus
 - 1. His incarnation was ORDAINED before creation (1 Pet. 1:20)
 - 2. His coming was PROMISED at the Fall (Gen. 3:15)
 - 3. Isaiah foretold the VIRGIN conception of GOD incarnate (Isa. 7:14)
 - C. Jesus' SINLESS nature demands it, because He must be GOD
 - D. His claim to the THRONE of DAVID required it
- III. The Typical OBJECTIONS
 - A. "It is biologically IMPOSSIBLE"

1. Mary was perplexed, because she KNEW she was a virgin (Lk 1:34)
2. Joseph was distraught, because he KNEW he was not the father
(Matt. 1:19-20)
3. Both BELIEVED, because they knew NOTHING is impossible with GOD
(Lk 1:37)

B. “The story is based on ancient MYTHOLOGY”

1. There is NO hero of ancient mythology said to have been VIRGIN born
2. No Jew would DARE construct such a story from MYTHOLOGY

C. “The virgin conception is mentioned only by MATTHEW and LUKE”

1. Does not mean that Mark and John did not believe Jesus had been BORN
2. The two accounts were SUFFICIENT (cf. Gal. 4:4)

D. “There are CONTRADICTIONS in the birth narratives”

1. Matthew reports on JOSEPH’S perspective and Luke on MARY’S
2. Matthew provides JOSEPH’S genealogy and Luke MARY’S

IV. The DEMONIC Denial (1 John 4:1-3)

A. Demons could not help but acknowledge that Jesus was “the SON of GOD”
(Matt. 8:29)

B. Demons DENY that He is truly a MAN (cf. Heb. 2:14-18)

1. Rejecting the virgin conception also rejects Jesus’ FULL DEITY
2. The virgin conception was the ONLY means through which the ETERNAL WORD could be made HUMAN