

CHRISTMAS – Part II
“Evidence for the Virgin Birth”
Reference: **Matthew 1:18-25**
Pastor Larry Webb

No other fact in the Christmas story is more important than the virgin birth. The virgin birth identified Jesus as the promised Messiah and enabled God to also become a man and ultimately the Savior.

Please notice that the virgin birth is _____ as the Immaculate Conception. Pope Pius IX, on December 8, 1854, decreed the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception to be added as an article to the Roman Catholic Church.

Question: If the Immaculate Conception isn't the virgin birth then what is the Immaculate Conception?

Answer: The word “Immaculate” means _____, _____ and _____. Catholicism teaches that Mary, Jesus' mother, was **conceived inside her own mother** in a _____ and _____ state.

Reference: **Luke 1:46-47** (see screen)

Verse twenty-three is a direct quotation from **Isaiah 7:14**. This text from Isaiah is one of the most famous Old Testament messianic prophecies, and it predicted the virgin birth of Jesus Christ.

Reference: **Isaiah 7:14** (see screen)

In Isaiah's passage the Hebrew word translated *virgin* is “_____.” “*Almah*” can sometimes (rarely) be translated as “young woman.”

There are two reasons the word “*alma*” in **Isaiah 7:14** should be translated as virgin and **not** young woman:

One the birth of this promised child was to be a miraculous _____.

Two in quoting from **Isaiah 7:14**, **Matthew** uses a word that can only mean _____. **Matthew** uses the Greek word “_____” and this word can only mean _____. Medical science calls the virgin birth *parthenogenesis*, and this *parthenogenesis* is a derivative from the Greek word *parthenos*.

The dual natures of Jesus Christ are explained like this:

- Jesus existed as _____.
- Jesus consisted of two natures: _____ and _____.

The one individual that did more to popularize the rejection of Jesus' dual nature was a supposed theologian from Alexandria, Egypt (260- 336 AD) named _____ and his teaching is called _____. This infamous heretic rejected the doctrine of the trinity and specifically taught that Jesus was a type of _____, meaning that He was not actually God and neither was He fully a man.

- The human-divine union in Jesus is _____.

“To be precise, Jesus Christ was and is the theanthropos... the God Man. The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus was both fully God and fully man. He was one in substance (homoousios) with the Father in regard to His divine nature and one in substance with humanity in regard to His human nature. The two natures were perfectly united in the one person of Jesus Christ. To quote the Creed of Chalcedon, the Lord Jesus Christ is ‘one person in two natures, unmixed, unchanged, undivided, (and) inseparable.’”

Hank Hanegraaff
President of Christian Research Institute

Conclusion:

Christ's conception remains unique because modern science can never explain how a virgin, a woman who had never had a sexual relationship with a man, could give birth to a male child. It was a miracle from God; in fact, the most miraculous conception humanity has ever known.