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Jesus the GOD-MAN

One of the greatest mysteries in all of time and creation, is the teaching and belief *in the virgin birth and incarnation* of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a subject of interest that continues both to intrigue and baffle, even the most studied of science and theology to this very day.

Roughly 2,000 years ago a young *virgin* woman from the town of Nazareth named Mary was visited by an angel named Gabriel. Gabriel told the Jewish woman that she would have a son to be named *"Jesus"* and that He would be the Son of God. At this time, Mary was engaged (*betrothed*) to her soon-to-be husband Joseph. When told to Joseph, he was hurt and confused because he did not believe Mary. The angel Gabriel visited Joseph and told him that Mary was pregnant from the Lord and that she would have a son named "Jesus" *who would save the people from their sins*. (Luke 1:26-38)

Ponder that statement in light of other Scriptures:

- Isaiah 9:6 "For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us" Notice that one word: given. The son was given by God! As the Son of God, Jesus already existed ... but He came to earth through human birth. In other words, He was born as a human!
- Galatians 4:4 "When the time came to completion, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law" Here, Paul highlighted the reality of Deity merging with humanity. God sent His Son—the son was given—yet Jesus was "born of a woman." God became a man. This verse clearly summarizes the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

The two natures of Jesus Christ form what theologians call **the** *hypostatic union*. That's a big term but it simply means - that Jesus is made up of undiminished Deity and perfect humanity. He became no less God when He became human.

Mary <u>did not</u> give birth to both God and man! Jesus was not 50 percent human and 50 percent God. Rather, Mary gave birth to the *"God-Man"* who was both: fully God and fully man at the same time.

 Jesus was born of God so that He might be "God with us, Immanuel." We read in Colossians 1:19 that, "God was pleased to have <u>all</u> His fullness dwell in Him."

The Bible often equates Jesus with God, reinforcing this relationship. Genesis 1:1 tells us that God created the world, and Colossians 1:16 tells us that all things were created by Christ Jesus. So either we have two creators, or the God of Genesis 1:1 is also the God of Colossians 1:16.

Jesus Christ is distinct from God the Father in His Person, yet equal with God in His Deity. He took on human flesh being born as a baby in a world of darkness. He came for the purpose of making the invisible God visible to us in history.

Jesus' birth was a birth like no other ... because He is Deity like no other! Jesus came to earth as the Son of God ... so that we may *know* God and experience Him more fully! **THE DIVINE CONCEPTION**

Mary did not doubt the announcement from Gabriel about giving birth as a virgin, but she did ask the question: *How*? She didn't question God's power or ability... but she wondered "how" He would accomplish the miraculous. Gabriel's response is rich with meaning: **"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power** (Gr. dunamis) **of the Most High will overshadow you** (Gr. episkiazo)."

• Important note: Mary was never physically touched!

Scientific Facts:

Each human being has what are called chromosomes (Greek, *chromosoma*, *chroma* = color, *soma* = body). Each person has 23 pairs of chromosomes for a total of 46 in all. They receive one set from each parent; (a) 23 from the male and (b) 23 from the female. The 23rd pair of chromosomes is either a pair of; (a) XX (female) or (b) XY (male) chromosomes. So, females have two copies of the X chromosome, and males have one X and one Y chromosome; all the cells in the female contain only X chromosomes, while the male has both X and Y chromosomes.

The Miracle(s) of the Virgin Birth:

- 1. **Virgin Birth:** During Mary's conception a specific egg (Matt. 1:18; Luke 1:35; Gal. 4:4) inside her began to undergo what is called mitotic-division; the process in cell division by which the nucleus divides. This occurs when an egg is fertilized.
- X Chromosome: In the virgin birth, "if" conception occurred *without* fertilization, Mary's
 offspring would have been a "female," *not* male, because Mary had no Y chromosome. So, "if"
 nothing else occurred, Jesus would have had the exact same chromosomes or DNA coding as
 Mary, who only had X chromosomes.
- 3. Y Chromosome: However, something else did occur. Jesus was and still is a man (Matt. 1:1; John 1:14; Rom. 1:3; Gal. 4:4; 1 Tim. 2:5), so God the Holy Spirit must have supernaturally supplied the Y chromosome (Matt. 1:18; Luke 1:35). What is the "possible origin" of this Y chromosome?

Possible Origin of the Y Chromosome:

- 1. **Creation of Adam:** Adam was created uniquely by God. Genesis 2:7 states, "then the Lord God formed **the man** of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and **the man** became a living creature." Adam was a male, so he was created with a XY chromosome.
- Creation of Eve: Eve was created from Adam's rib. "So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man" (Gen. 2:21-22).
- 3. Eve a Man?: Since Eve was made from Adam's XY rib, she should have had the same DNA coding as Adam. Eve should have had one X and one Y chromosome in her DNA structure. So, "if" nothing else occurred, Eve should have been a male, as she would have had both a X and Y chromosome structure.

- 4. Eve no Y Chromosome: Since, Eve was declared to be a "woman" by God Himself (Gen. 2:22), He must have supernaturally withheld the Y chromosome (Psalm 139:14). Genesis 2:22 states that God "made" her. This is when the removal of the Pre-Fall Y chromosome took place. Therefore, like man, she is a unique creation too!
- 5. The Pre-Fall Y Chromosome: What did God do with the Pre-Fall Y chromosome?

Though it is not expressly set down in Scripture ... I believe we may by good and necessary consequence deduce, that God may have taken the Pre-Fall Y chromosome from the Pre-Fall first Adam in the Garden ... and held it in absolute pure "abeyance" until the fullness of time the birth of Jesus (Gal. 4:4).

This Pre-Fall Y chromosome *then endued with power from on high* (Matt. 1:18; Luke 1:35) was placed in "the" specific egg of the virgin Mary. So, Jesus is the Second and Last Man Adam (1 Cor. 15:45, 47).

• <u>Another possibility</u> ... is that in a similar manner that God the Holy Spirit "made" the Pre-Fall XX Eve, He also made the Un-fallen XY Jesus.

Either way, "*the Word became flesh*" (John 1:14). To clarify, the divine Second Person of the Trinity took on perfect unfallen humanity (Gen. 1:31) in the person of the XY Jesus (the second and last man Adam; 1 Cor. 15:45, 47) ... not by losing any of his divinity ... but by adding perfect humanity to Himself (Phil. 2:6-7 = *"taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men"*).

In essence ... "Christ, the Son of God, became man, by taking to Himself a true body and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, in the womb of the virgin Mary, and was born of her, yet without sin!"

Although He was made fully human, there was never a point when He abrogated His divine nature. At no time did Jesus ever cease to be God. It is equally true that, after becoming incarnate ... the Son has never ceased to be human. The Lord Jesus Christ is one eternally divine Person who will forever possess two distinct yet inseparable natures: one divine and one human.

As the apostle Paul wrote, *"For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus"* (1 Timothy 2:5).

Jesus is not half-human and half-divine ... Rather, He is *Theoanthropos* ... the GOD-MAN!

"The virgin birth—like Jesus' resurrection from the dead—ranks as one of the Bible's more amazing miracles. Many people reject the idea outright, while others shrug it off as nonessential to their understanding of the Savior. But a person can't believe the Word of God while rejecting its claim that the Lord was born to a virgin." --- Dr. Charles Stanley