

# Was Jesus Christ Really Born Of A Virgin?

Many people have been reluctant to accept Christianity because they are unable to accept Jesus Christ being born of a virgin. It's too unnatural for them.

**Isaiah 7:13-14** [NIV] *“Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: **The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.**”*

God the Father decided that His Son would have a miraculous entrance into humanity.

This prophecy of the birth of Jesus Christ, some seven hundred years before it happened, is in the context of a test of faith in the Creator God.

The word “*Immanuel*” is Hebrew for “*God with us.*”

The New Testament records the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy.

**Luke 1:26-31** [NIV] *“In the sixth month, **God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary.** The angel went to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you.” Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. **You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.**”*

The name Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua, meaning “*the Lord saves.*”

Just as Joshua led their forefathers into the Promised Land, so Jesus will lead His people into eternal life.

The symbolism of the name was not lost on the people of Christ's day, as they took names very seriously and saw them as a source of power and character.

In Jesus' name people are healed, demons are banished and our sins are forgiven.

**Luke 1:34-35, 37** [NIV] *“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “**The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.**” ... “For nothing is impossible with God.”*

The Holy Spirit, who is God, would impregnate Mary and the resulting child would then be the very Son of God.

**The virgin birth is set down in the Christian Bible as a historical fact.**

The writers who recorded the story were Matthew, an eyewitness to the events in Jesus' life and Luke, the doctor, who records many things in the life of Jesus Christ from the viewpoint of His mother Mary.

The passages in both Matthew and Luke are authentic, with **no** evidence at all that they were later additions.

The details of this miraculous event could **not** have been kept secret with all the events that surrounded it at the time.

**There are several reasons why the virgin birth was a necessity.**

**John 1:1-2, 14** [NIV] *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.” ... “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

The Christian Bible teaches that Jesus was the Word who was God and became flesh.

The pre-existence of Jesus Christ is testified many times in the New Testament of the Christian Bible.

**John 8:58** [NIV] *“I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!”*

Jesus existed as God before Abraham was born.

The “I am” is a name only applied to the Holy Creator God.

**Philippians 2:5-11** [NIV] *“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

Jesus, the Word, set aside His glory when He became a human being but **not** His divinity.

**Colossians 1:15-16** [NIV] *“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.”*

The context confirms this is speaking about Jesus Christ.

When Jesus came into the human world, He was **not** a newly created individual, as all other human beings are, but the eternal Son of God.

**Revelation 1:8** [NIV] *“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”*

Jesus reveals to the apostle John that He had **no** beginning and is eternal.

For Jesus to be born into the human world of a virgin called Mary required divine intervention and this is exactly what the New Testament records.

**Jesus needed to be virgin-born because He had to have a sinless nature, to be the perfect sacrifice for all humanity.**

**Psalms 51:5** [NIV] *“Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.”*

Since our human race is contaminated with sin, Jesus could **not** have a human father and needed to be born of one who was symbolically without sin, a virgin.

If Joseph was the human father of Jesus, he would **not** have the legal right to the throne of King David as was prophesied.

**Jeremiah 22:28-30** [NIV] *“Is this man Jehoiachin a despised, broken pot, an object no-one wants? Why will he and his children be hurled out, cast into a land they do not know? O land, land, land, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the LORD says: “Record this man as if childless, a man who will not prosper in his lifetime, for none of his offspring will prosper, none will sit on the throne of David or rule any more in Judah.”*

No descendant of King Jeconiah could be a king of Israel on the throne of David.

**Matthew 1:12, 16** [NIV] *“After the exile to Babylon: **Jeconiah** was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,” ... “and **Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ.**”*

Joseph is recorded as being from the line of Jeconiah, a cursed line.

The virgin birth of Jesus Christ is **not** only a historical fact but it was also a necessary historical fact when all the data available is considered.

**Are there not legitimate objections to the virgin birth that make it unbelievable to educated people today?**

**There are other possible ways which God the Father could have chosen to send His Only Son into the world, but the fact is He chose to do it through the virgin birth.**

**Matthew 1:24-25** [NIV] *“When **Joseph** woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took **Mary** home as his wife. **But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.**”*

The New Testament relates that Joseph was known **not** to be the father of Jesus Christ.

**The main problem that most people have with a virgin birth is that it was a miracle.**

Scripture treats the event as supernatural, and the virgin birth should **not** pose a problem if we accept the possibility of miracles.

Humans have this problem with miracles because we are tied to this physical world and do **not** accept a Creator God who works in and from a spirit world, that we call, rightly, supernatural.

Another common objection to the virgin birth is that it is biological impossibility, not accepting anything outside this physical world.

Some people limit miracles to what they conceive as an era of ignorance that modern science has proved to be superstition.

Some have attempted to account for the virgin birth by tracing it to Greek or Babylonian mythology, which the New Testament writers borrowed.

This view will **not** fit the facts and it is unthinkable for a Jewish mind to construct such a story from mythology.

The only mythological births were all the result of sexual relationship between some mythical godlike being and an earthly woman, or by some adulterous affair among the Greek or Babylonian gods and goddesses.

All these stories of supposed supernatural conceptions and births in folklore and mythology serve to show a complete contrast and dissimilarity which exists between the Christian birth story and the folklore tales which are current in various pagan circles.

Therefore, when we closely consider the objections to the virgin birth, we become more convinced that it did indeed occur just as the historical record in the New Testament of the Christian Bible states.