

The God of the Impossible, A Virgin Birth

Luke 1:26-38

Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"

29 But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

34 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"

35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing will be impossible."

38 Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. NKJV

It is no wonder that we have went from Merry Christmas to Happy Holidays. I will make any one here a deal. I will give you a dollar each time you hear "Merry Christmas" and you give me a dollar each time you hear "Happy Holidays." I will have all the money I need to buy those "Happy Holiday" presents. You see "Holidays" is not mysterious, there are no questions. But when you come to Christmas, you must deal with Christ. You must ask, "Who is this person?" Is this just another baby?

If this is just another baby then Happy Holidays will work just fine. But if this baby was born they way the Bible describes then Happy Holidays will never do. And to rename a holiday that was designed to honor Him "Happy Holidays" is to blaspheme His holy person and to mock His holy name.

You see the real question goes back to whether or not there is a God and if Jesus Christ is His Son. You see if there is a God who designed the human cell and wrote the rules of reproduction then it is not difficult for Him to by-pass them. Jer 31:22 For the LORD has created a new thing in the earth — A woman shall encompass a man." NKJV Most commentators agree that Jeremiah is referring to the virgin birth of the Messiah.

So then our God is the God of the impossible. And that is important. For in the world in which we live today, we often face impossible problems and challenges. But we never have anything that God cannot handle.

I. God Does the Impossible

A. The Birth of Isaac

1. When God told Abraham that Sarah would have a child at 90 Abraham laughed.
2. Yes this great man of faith, the father of the faithful laughed.
 - a. Gen 17:17 Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Shall a child be born to a man who is one hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" NKJV
3. Later on when Sarah heard the news, she too laughed.
4. Gen 18:13-14 13 And the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?' 14 **Is anything too hard for the LORD?** At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son." NKJV

B. When Moses and the children of Israel were trapped by the Egyptians God opened the Red Sea to let them go free and to destroy the army that was chasing them.

C. When Joshua need the lights to stay on in order to win the battle.

1. Josh 10:12-14 12 Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon." 13 So the sun stood still , And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge Upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day. 14 And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel. NKJV

D. When God wanted to give Hezekiah a sign he made the sun dial of Ahaz go back ten degrees.

1. 2 Kings 20:9-11 9 Then Isaiah said, "This is the sign to you from the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing which He has spoken: shall the shadow go forward ten degrees or go backward ten degrees?" 10 And Hezekiah answered, "It is an easy thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees; no, but let the shadow go backward ten degrees." 11 So Isaiah the prophet cried out to the LORD, and He brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down on the sundial of Ahaz. NKJV

E. So when God wanted to bring His own Son into the world, He bypassed the normal laws of nature and caused Jesus to be born of a virgin.

II. The importance of the virgin birth

A. God will be true to His Word.

1. Isa 7:14 Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel. NKJV
 - a. Matt 1:22-23 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." NKJV
2. Jer 31:22 For the LORD has created a new thing in the earth — A woman shall encompass a man."
3. Isa 9:6-7 6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this. NKJV
 - a. Luke 1:30-33 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." NKJV
4. Mic 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting." NKJV
 - a. Matt 2:5-6 5 So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: 6'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.'" NKJV

B. That the Bible is dependable

1. If we cannot accept what the Bible says then we must admit that we know nothing at all about God or Jesus and we might as well say Happy Holidays.

C. Jesus is divine, God in flesh from birth

1. If not, when did He become divine
2. For if Jesus was not divine, God in the flesh then there could be no sacrifice for sin for when he would have died on the cross it would have been for His own sins.
3. If Jesus was just like you and I then He was a sinner just like us.
4. If Jesus was only man then why would we put our hope in Him, especially since He died just like everyone else does.

III. The significance of the virgin birth

A. Then Jesus is who He said.

1. John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. NKJV

B. His claims on our lives are unquestionable.

1. Luke 9:23-25 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me , let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. 24 For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. NKJV
2. Luke 14:25-28 26 "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. 27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. NKJV

C. His warnings about ignoring Him are real.

1. John 8:23-24 23 And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. 24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins ; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins ." NKJV
2. John 5:40 40 But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. NKJV

I guess the question is what type of holiday are you looking for. Are you going to settle for a happy holiday or do you want to encounter the Christ of Christmas?