

**“EXCEPT
YOU
BELIEVE
THAT
I AM HE”**

#2

**BY
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ISAIAH PROPHESIED 600 YEARS BEFORE...

- That Jesus would be born of a virgin
 - Isaiah 7:14 (NKJV)
 - **¹⁴Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.**
- The word “virgin” is translated from the Hebrew word, “Almah” can mean a young maiden or virgin.

“ALMAH”: MAIDEN OR VIRGIN?

- We don't have to wonder which one is correct because Matthew quotes Isa. 7:14 and translates it “virgin”.

–Matthew 1:23 (NKJV)

- 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.”
- Note that the Savior of the world would be **both God and a son of Mary.**

“GOD WITH US”

- John explains

- John 1:1 (NKJV)

- ¹In the beginning was the Word, and the **Word was with God**, and the **Word was God**.

- Two things he declares:

- That the Word is eternal

- That the Word is God

WHO IS THE “WORD”?

- John 1:14 (NKJV)

- ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

- We learn:

- That the Word (Jesus) **became** (He existed before He became flesh)

- That He is the “**only begotten**” of the Father

WE LEARN FROM VERSE 14

- The Word BECAME flesh
- He did not cease being the eternal Word of God
- At no time, did He give up His deity
- Becoming flesh affirms Jesus' full humanity

PAUL WRITES IN 1 TIM. 3:16

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

- God was manifested in the flesh
- Justified in the Spirit
- Seen by angels
- Preached among the Gentiles
- Believed on in the world
- Received up in glory.

IN HIS INCARNATION, HE BECOMES “THE SON OF GOD”

- “Son of God” is a title meaning that Jesus is of the same nature as God the Father.
- He is the offspring of God **in the same sense** that we are the offspring of our parents.
- Our birth was NOT miraculous; His was!
- He existed before conception; we did not!
- **He becomes the “Son of God” by His miraculous conception**

LUKE TELLS US

- **Luke 1:30-35 (NKJV)**

- 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."

LUKE TELLS US

- **Luke 1:30-35 (NKJV)**
- 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.

QUESTIONS

- I received several good questions in an email
 1. If God is always wise, Luke 2 says Christ grew in wisdom.
 2. If God is perfect, Heb. 5 says Christ learned perfection by obedience.
 3. If God can't be tempted yet Christ was tempted.
 4. In short if Christ is retained as God how could this be?
- **The answer is the incarnation – Jesus was fully God and fully man!**

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- **Because as man He could be tempted**

–But not as God

- James 1:13 (NKJV)

–¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- **Because as man He could be tempted**
 - Mt. 4:1-11
 - Heb. 4:14-16