

MARY WAS A VIRGIN

Luke 1:34 "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

Depending on the poll, at least two-thirds of Americans believe Mary was a virgin when she conceived and gave birth to Jesus. Over ninety percent believe Jesus was a real person. Only slightly over fifty percent believe Jesus is true God. The younger the person polled the lower the percentage.

Polls do not determine whether Mary was a virgin. God's word in the Old Testament, Isaiah 7:14 says, "the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel." Mary said to the Angel who told her "You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus." "How will this be. . .since I am a virgin?" (Luke 1:33-34)

The Angel's words to Joseph explain why all of this is so important, "But after he (Joseph) had considered this, an angel of the LORD appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the LORD had said through the prophet: " The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel " (which means "God with us")." (Matthew 1:20-23)

Mary's virginity is simply God's way of telling you that Jesus is the one He promised to Adam and Eve to come into the world to take away its sins. If Mary was not a virgin, then Isaiah's prophecy would not be true. If his prophecy was not true then God's Word is not true. More important yet, because the Holy Spirit caused the conception of Jesus in Mary's womb, Jesus' conception was not through the sinful seed of a human father. Thus, Jesus was conceived and born without sin. At the same time, Jesus was born a true human being. Because He was conceived sinless and lived a sinless life, He took Himself as our human substitute, our sins to pay for them. ". . .in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them. . ." (2 Corinthians 5:19)

Prayer: Grant me, O Lord, a faith to believe and trust that Jesus was born of a virgin, namely Mary and through this miraculous conception and birth and His holy life, death and resurrection took away my sins. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undefined, To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His favor.

Angels sang about His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined But nor more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!
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