

# The Savior – The Person of Jesus Christ

## The Incarnation and Virgin Birth

### The Incarnation – What Does the Bible Say?

When considering the person of Jesus Christ from the Bible, one soon learns that Jesus is extraordinary. This is because He is the One unique person in all of history in whom God became “**incarnate**.” This is to say that God became “incarnated” as a man in the person of Jesus Christ by the agency of the virgin birth.

**John 1:14** - 14 And **the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us**, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. NASB

So when we consider the nature of Jesus from Scripture, we find that He is “**fully man and fully God**.” The Bible teaches that He is God in the flesh.

**1 John 4:2-3** - 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: **every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God**; 3 and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; and this is the *spirit* of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world. NASB

This is what distinguishes Jesus Christ from every other religious leader, Jesus is in fact God Himself, come into the world to be with us and manifest God to us in a way that we can understand clearly by taking on our very nature. The name Immanuel is a title for Jesus meaning “**God with us**.” God took on a human nature in Jesus Christ.

**Matthew 1:23** - 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which translated means, "**God with us**." NASB

### The Virgin Birth

The Bible clearly speaks of the fact that Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary by the Holy Spirit and that He did not have a human father.

**Matthew 1:18-20** - 18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, **before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit**. 19 And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man, and not wanting to disgrace her, desired to put her away secretly. 20 But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for that which **has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit**." NASB

This divine miracle is remarkable indeed. It clearly speaks of the nature of the baby to be born, that it will be divine. This child will be Holy and without the iniquity of an earthly father being passed to Him. He will be the very Son of God!

**Luke 1:35** – 35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason **the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God**." NASB

So we see that Jesus not only had a human mother, Mary, but His father is God Himself. This is a thing of wonder indeed. The **humanity and the deity of Christ are clearly seen** in the fact that Jesus is the son of man, being born of Mary, and the Son of God, being conceived of the Holy Spirit. Thus, God took on a human nature and became a man.

**Galatians 4:4** – 4 But when the fulness of the time came, **God sent forth His Son, born of a woman**, born under the Law, NASB

This was absolutely necessary for Jesus to come into the world to die as a substitution for our sins. No one other man could ever do this for us because Jesus was the only One without sin, and therefore able to die in our place. This doctrine of the Virgin Birth is always and continually under attack for this very reason. If we forsake this fundamental teaching of Scripture, the doctrine of substitutionary atonement loses its foundation of a “lamb without blemish”, and we are therefore left with a less than perfect Savior to die in our place.

# The Savior – The Person of Jesus Christ

## The Pre-Existence of Christ

### The Pre-Existence of Christ - What Does the Bible Say?

The fact that Jesus the Son of God existed before His incarnation upon the earth is a fact clearly taught in the Bible. Because Jesus is God, He has always existed and there never was a time when He had a beginning of days. He was God and with God in the beginning.

**John 1:1-3 - 1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. NASB

He therefore existed as God the Son eternally in Heavenly glory before He came to earth. He was always rejoicing in the perfection of His own nature, with the Father and the Spirit for all eternity. He speaks of this “glory” He had before the world began.

**John 17:5 - 5** "And now, glorify Thou Me together with Thyself, Father, with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was. NASB

**2 Corinthians 8:9-10 - 9** For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. NASB

Jesus Christ existed before all created things and this fact is repeated in Scripture several times.

**Colossians 1:17 - 17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. NASB

Even the Old Testament speaks of Him existing from eternity.

**Micah 5:2 - 2** "But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Too little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity." NASB

Jesus claimed to have existed before Abraham, who lived in 2100 B.C.

**John 8:58 - 58** Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am." NASB

Jesus also claims to have come down from Heaven. That is before He walked the earth, He was in Heaven with God.

**John 3:13, 31 - 13** "And no one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven, even the Son of Man...31 "He who comes from above is above all, he who is of the earth is from the earth and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all NASB

**John 6:38 - 38** "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. NASB

**John 6:62 - 62** "What then if you should behold the Son of Man ascending where He was before? NASB

This is also affirmed by the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians.

**1 Corinthians 15:47 - 47** The first man is from the earth, earthy; the second man is from heaven. NASB

When the Bible speaks about Jesus, it says He “came forth from God” and “was sent” by God the Father to us. That is, He was with God in the beginning, and left Heaven to come down to earth and live and walk among us.

**Matthew 10:40 - 40** "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. NASB

**John 8:42 - 42** Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me; for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me. NASB

**John 13:3 - 3** Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come forth from God, and was going back to God, NASB

**John 16:28 - 28** "I came forth from the Father, and have come into the world; I am leaving the world again, and going to the Father." NASB

All of this happened by God’s plan, at the perfect moment in history, in the “fullness of time,” so that God’s plan could be fulfilled and we could be redeemed.

**Galatians 4:4 - 4** But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, NASB

In this doctrine of the Pre-Existence of Christ we clearly see that Jesus is not like us. He is indeed the Lord of Eternity from outside of time and space. There is no one like Him indeed!

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