## **Bible Thoughts**

with P.H.A.Hopkins

# The Virgin Birth of Jesus

The thoughts and note material given on these pages are only a possible suggestion of the meaning, they must not be taken as inspired, however they are prayerfully prepared and compared with other similar material. There are many ways in which God's Word can be analyzed and none must be taken in place of the Word of God itself.

bible-thoughts.co.uk

study@bible-thoughts.co.uk

### The Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ.

The Bible claims that Jesus was born from a Virgin called Mary, the world laughs at this claim but it is the most important situation and status of Jesus, so why?

The first point is that Jesus did not become the Son of God because He was born of a virgin, Jesus has always been the Son of God but he took on the form of a human at the virgin birth.

#### 1 Timothy 3:16.

"16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."

Why was it necessary for this event and action to happen? Adam and Eve were originally made perfect but with a free will, they used this free will to chose to disobey the instructions of God when tempted by Satan. They sinned and so lost what God had given them, a perfect Garden of Eden and future world and eternal life. Their dominion was given over to Satan. This resulted in them, and all Mankind, slaves to Satan. The only way it could be returned was for a man, without sin, who could take the punishment for the sins of Mankind. God is a Spirit so does not have a "physical body" like a human so could not die in our place and therefore shed His blood for our forgiveness. This means that God in the form of Jesus Christ has to be born as a human.

Jesus Christ, who was the last Adam, came, being born of a virgin, to undo what the first Adam had done. Without this action by God, through the Virgin Birth of Jesus, there is no hope of salvation for us. The Bible teaches that:-

- 1) "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23.
- 2) "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." <u>Ezekiel 18:20.</u>

• 3) "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission." Hebrews 9:22. The Holy God demands that all sin must involve a punishment and be paid for. It must be atoned, pay the penalty, and this must be paid for by a person giving their blood as payment for the sin.

Luke 1:26-38.

## Fundamental facts about the Virgin Birth. The influence of God in the birth.

Let us go back earlier to the events as recorded in Luke chapt. 1 The scriptures tell us that an angel, called Gabriel, came to a young unmarried virgin girl, probably a young teenager, and announced that she had been selected by God to have a special child. We find that Mary, a young virgin was engaged to a man named Joseph, but they have not come together in marriage. The angel tells Mary ", Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God." And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

Mary responds with a very important question, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" The answer from the angel was "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."The response by the angel was a very important statement, "For with God nothing shall be impossible." Luke 1:26-38.

- "26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
- 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.
- 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.
- 29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
- 30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

- 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- 32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
- 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
- 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
- 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
- 36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.
- 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.
- 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her."

Let us consider the situation of a virgin birth, the angel Gabriel gave the answer in his reply, "with God nothing is impossible." Seeing that God was able to create angels, the universe and create the first man out of the nothing, then this action will not be impossible to God. The angel continued, "the power of God, through the Holy Spirit, will come upon you and create the holy baby."

There are many things which we do not understand, the fact of a Virgin Birth by the power of God does not depend upon you understanding the event and validating it. God is not limited by any laws that He has created, He is Lord of all that exists, God can do anything because He is God. A mystery for me is not a mystery for God.

God, who is eternal, cannot die, so the redemption of mankind for their sins must be a man who takes our punishment. But it cannot be any man because all humans people have sinned, no one alive or dead can claim that they have never sinned, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" Romans 3:23. The human who takes our punishment must be perfect and sinless.

Now if Jesus had been born with normal human parents then He would be a son of Adam, He would be just as sinful as us. This means that the only person he could take the punishment by God for sins was for himself and no one else.

Because of His love for His creation, God wants all people to accept His gift of salvation, so He had to send a man, a perfect, sinless man, the God-man, the Jesus Christ who was truly human and truly sinless. Jesus was a human who could restore the relationship with God, He could take our punishment with His death and shed blood.

John 3:16,17

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

The next question must be "whose blood was in the body of Jesus?" Well it could not be from Mary, When a baby is conceived the baby is totally different from the mother and she is only needed to allow the baby to grow and supply the food etc. This baby is not your body, it belongs to someone totally different. You often find that the mother has different blood type from the baby, this fact is often used in court cases to prove who are the parents of a baby. Why can this happen? The blood type is decided by the father not the mother. It was therefore the "blood of God" which was circulating in the baby Jesus. Note what Paul said to the church at Ephesian leaders.

Acts 20:28.

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

Was the Virgin Birth important? Yes, very important, without it Jesus would not have been able to die in our place on the cross. He did what He did so that we could have salvation and become the sons and daughters of God. Each one of us, who have accepted the gift of forgiveness, has now become part of the family of God and we carry His characteristics. Unfortunately, we still have the effect of our earthly

parents, one day we will have perfection in heaven with our beloved Jesus and our Father God.

Some other verses to think about.

#### John 1:13,14.

"13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word was made 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."

#### Romans 5:9

"Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. 10 For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."

#### Colossians 1:12

"12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

14 In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:

16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. "

#### Hebrews 2:14

"14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;"

#### Ephesians 1:7

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"

#### Hebrews 9:12

"12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctified to the purifying of the flesh:

14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?"