

Isaiah 7:14 Prophecy of a Virgin Birth? Or Something Entirely Different? An Examination of the Evidence

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KJV Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. 22 Now all this was done, **that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,** 23 **Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel,** which being interpreted is, **God with us.**

KJV Isaiah 7:1 And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of Syria, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of Israel, went up toward Jerusalem to war against it, but could not prevail against it. 2 And it was told the house of David, saying, Syria is confederate with Ephraim. And his heart was moved, and the heart of his people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind. 3 Then said the LORD unto Isaiah, **Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub (a remnant shall return) thy son,** at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field; 4 **And say unto him,** Take heed, and be quiet; fear not, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with Syria, and of the son of Remaliah. 5 Because Syria, Ephraim, and the son of Remaliah, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying, 6 Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, even the son of Tabeal: 7 Thus saith the Lord GOD, It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass. 8 For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin; and within threescore and five years shall Ephraim be broken, that it be not a people. 9 And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established. 10 Moreover the LORD spake again unto Ahaz, saying, 11 Ask thee a sign of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. 12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the LORD. 13 And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also? 14 **Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and [she] shall call his name Immanuel.** 15 **Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.** 16 **For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good,** the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings.

Isaiah 7:14 Jewish Translation: Therefore the Lord, himself will give you a sign; behold, **the young woman** [הַעַלְמָה] is with child, and she shall bear a son, and she shall call his name Immanuel ... **Isaiah 8:3.** And I went to the prophetess; and she conceived, and bore a son. Then said the Lord to me, Call his name *Maher-Shalal-Hash-Baz* (The spoil speeds, the prey hastens).

Bereshis (Genesis) 35:18. And it came to pass, as her soul was departing, for she died, that **she** called his name *Benoni*; **but his father** called him *Benjamin*.

H5959 עַלְמָה `almah {al-maw'} ≠ from 05958; TWOT - 1630b; n f ≠ AV - **virgin 4, maid 2, damsels 1; 7** ≠ 1) virgin, young woman 1a) of marriageable age 1b) maid or newly married +++++ **There is no instance where it can be proved that this word designates a young woman who is not a virgin.** (TWOT)

NOTE: This definition was written by a believing Christian, thus the addition of, “**There is no instance where it can be proved that this word designates a young woman who is not a virgin.**” However ... Cf. (compare) Mishlei/Proverbs 30:19 below.

KJV Genesis 24:43 Behold, I stand by the well of water; and it shall come to pass, that when **the virgin** [הָעַלְמָה] cometh forth to draw *water*, and I say to her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water of thy pitcher to drink;

KJV Exodus 2:7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee? 8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And **the maid** [הָעַלְמָה] went and called the child's mother.

KJV Psalm 68:25 The singers went before, the players on instruments *followed* after; among *them were* **the damsels** [עַלְמֹתַי] playing with timbrels.

KJV Song of Solomon 1:3 Because of the savour of thy good ointments thy name *is as* ointment poured forth, therefore do the **virgins** [עַלְמֹתַי] love thee.

KJV Song of Solomon 6:8 There are threescore queens, and fourscore concubines, **and virgins** [עַלְמֹתַי] without number.

KJV Proverbs 30:18 There be three *things which* are too wonderful for me, yea, four which I know not: 19 The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and **the way of a man with a maid** [בְּעַלְמָה]. 20 Such *is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.*

Devarim/Deuteronomy 22:13. If any man takes a wife, and goes in to her, and hates her, 14. And gives accusing speeches against her, and brings an evil name upon her, and says, I took this woman, and when I came to her, I did not find in her the signs of virginity; 15. Then shall the father of the girl, and her mother, take and bring forth the signs of the girl's virginity to the elders of the city in the gate; 16. And the girl's father shall say to the elders, I gave my daughter to this man to wife, and he hates her; 17. And, behold, he has given accusing speeches against her, saying, I found not your daughter a virgin; and yet these are the signs of my daughter's virginity. And they shall spread the cloth before the elders of the city. 18. And the elders of that city shall take that man and chastise him; 19. And they shall fine him a hundred shekels of silver, and give them to the father of the girl, because he has brought up an evil name upon a virgin of Israel; and she shall be his wife; he may not put her away all his days. 20. But if this thing is true, and the signs of virginity are not found for the girl; 21. Then they shall bring out the girl to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die; because she has perpetrated wantonness in Israel, to play the harlot in her father's house; so shall you put evil away from among you.

H1330 בְּתוּלָה b@thuwlah {beth-oo-law'} ≠ pass. participle of an unused root meaning to separate; TWOT - 295a; n f ≠ AV - **virgin 38, maid 7, maiden 5; 50** ≠ 1) virgin

KJV Genesis 24:16 And the damsel *was* very fair to look upon, a virgin [בְּתוּלָה], neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

H226 תָּוּחַ 'owth {oth} ꝥ probably from 0225 (in the sense of appearing); TWOT - 41a; n f ꝥ AV - sign(s) 60, token(s) 14, ensign(s) 2, miracles 2, mark 1; 79 ꝥ 1) sign, signal 1a) a distinguishing mark 1b) banner 1c) remembrance 1d) miraculous sign 1e) omen 1f) warning 2) token, ensign, standard, miracle, proof

KJV Isaiah 7:11 Ask thee a sign [אֵימָנָה] of the LORD thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above ... **7:14** Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign [אֵימָנָה]; Behold, a **virgin** shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel ... **Isaiah 8:18** Behold, I and the children whom the LORD hath given me *are* for signs [לְאִתּוֹת] and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

Even the Authors of the New Testament (Seemingly) Didn't Consider the Virgin Birth a Sign ... At least they didn't reference it when challenged to do so by the "Jews"

KJV Mark 8:12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit, and saith, Why doth this generation seek after a sign? verily I say unto you, There shall no sign be given unto this generation.

KJV Matthew 12:39 But he answered and said unto them, An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas: 40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

"The Story of Christian Origins"

Martin A. Lawson

We observe also that the doctrine of the Virgin Birth, without which no prophet or savior-god could be divine incarnation, was so common among ancient cults that it was impossible for any religious founder to achieve acceptance without it. It was, indeed, unknown in Brahmanism or Judaism; but these exercised little or no influence on the Gospel of Jesus. In the mystery-cult, in Zoroastrianism, and in Buddhism, all saviors, past, present, and future, were incarnate gods, born of human virgins; this was an idea which came so easily and so naturally to primitive priests in order to establish their own authority that it sprang up independently in many places; Jesus was simply accorded the same honor by universal demand after his cult began making converts in the pagan world.