

The Virgin Birth of the Mighty God Isaiah 7:10-14 & Isaiah 9:6-7

Isaiah 1:9 Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, [and] we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

Isaiah 7:3 Then said the LORD unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and She'-ar-jash'-ub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field;

Isaiah's first son's name means "a remnant shall return" from slavery.

This 7th chapter besides containing a Messianic Prophecy of coming of the Messiah, this prophecy should be understood in a historical context. The setting has a teaching purpose to that past generation.

King Ahaz of Judah is afraid ... He is like being between the rock and the hard place ... he fears Assyria who is the up and coming major world power ... but he fears close threat of Israel and Syria who want him to join a coalition against the big bad guy Assyria. He refuses and in 7:6 Israel & Syria plot to capture Jerusalem and install the "son of Ta'-be-al" which might be a real person or in Hebrew means a "Good for nothing". God promises Ahaz in 7:7-8 "it shall not stand" and both kings are to die within 5 years ... but the Lord then warns Ahaz in V:9 "if ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established"

Instead of trusting the Lord, Ahaz is determined to turn to the worldly protection of the king of Assyria, to protect him from his enemies.

Isaiah 7:10-11 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.

God's offers to provide a miraculous sign to strengthen the faith of King Ahaz, offering him a choice of any sign he wants.

Isaiah 7:12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the LORD.

Hypocritical King Ahaz, having already made up his mind to reject God's counsel, refused to ask, pretending that he did not wish to tempt the Lord such as Deuteronomy 6:6 ... but it would not have been 'tempting God' for him to accept God's offer so, Isaiah strongly rebukes Ahaz telling him that God Himself will give him a sign. The sign meant to King Ahaz, that no helper would arise from the perverted, apostate House of David, seen in the wicked, male descendants of this lineage (LIN-e-age). All of the following evil, malicious, ungodly generation would perish. This is the teaching that those wicked, criminal leaders needed to understand ... for they treated lightly their own wickedness.

Isaiah 7:13 And he (Isaiah) 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?

The Virgin ... Notice the dramatic shift from "thy" God in verse 11 to "my" God in 13. Notice also that in verse 13 the prophet ceased from addressing King Ahaz and addressed, instead, the whole House of David. Notice also that the pronoun "he" in Isaiah 7:13 is a reference to Isaiah, not King Ahaz.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a (the) virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

This extremely important prophecy is one of the most discussed and debated in the entire Old Testament. We are confident that this is a true prophecy of the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ our Lord. He is the only unique example of someone entitled to be called "God with us."

We have heard all the objections that evil and unbelieving men have made against being a Bible-believing Christian. Here are the reasons for our own confidence in the true meaning of the prophecy.

Note in the Hebrew that the prophecy does not say "a virgin," but "The Virgin", a title that could hardly belong to anyone ever born except the Virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The silly objection that the ultimate fulfillment of this was too far in the future to do King Ahaz any good is worthless, because it was not designed to do King Ahaz any good.

That evil king had already refused to see a sign from God; and the notion that God forced the issue and gave him a sign anyway is ridiculous. This scripture says plainly in verse 13, the sign was for "the House of David," not for King Ahaz.

The Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ the Son of God is the unique and only example of such an occurrence in the history of the human race. It was verified by medical testimony investigated by Dr. Luke and the unanimous testimony of the first century Christians. The Gospels are the most historical documents known to mankind. The apostle Matthew cited this prophecy as a predictive announcement of Christ's birth.

No ignorant, arrogant and conceited modern seminarian college professor, Twiddle D.D. has any right or ability whatever to contradict the testimony of an inspired apostle on any subject.

How about the word [~`al-maw]? Does it not have a possible meaning of "young woman"; and could the allegation of unbelievers such as the Jews, unbelievers and liberal modernists be true?

They say "The rendering 'virgin' here is unjustifiable because the Hebrew word here means a young woman of marriageable age.

Strong's: "Virgin", Hebrew word "al-maw", lass, as veiled or private, a damsel, maid. Virgin from "aw-iam", kept out of sight.

The use of this word by the Jews who reject not only the Messiah and their own scriptures too ... and "liberal modernists" instead of [~bethulah] "beth-oo-law", which Strong's says: is a feminine past participle of an unused root word meaning to separate a virgin from her privacy, to deflower the virgin, a bride, maid, or virgin.

However, Mary stayed a virgin until she delivered the baby Jesus, not just until her impregnation. Thus, would not a continuous action word of being a virgin, than a past tense word, be a better word?

A fact apparently unknown to critical enemies of God's Word is that the true meaning of any word must finally be determined, not by any etymological data, but by the USAGE of it. Some examples are: hamburgers are not made out of ham ... trotlines do not trot ... catheads have nothing to do with cats ... but flea markets ...

Those who think God made a mistake and used the wrong word if they have ever researched to see if God has made the same mistake before? All right, now let us take a look at the usage of [~`al-maw,].

In Genesis 24 Abraham had sent his servant to his homeland to get a wife for his son Isaac. Here Rebekah is called [~`al-maw], and also [~bethulah], a woman whom “neither had any man known her.”

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

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

We are indebted to Homer Hailey's Bible Handbook for the following summary on the usage of [~`al-maw] in God's Word:

(1)"This word was never used of a married woman, nor of an immoral woman. This word occurs six times in Biblical passages in addition to the one before us. In every instance, the word refers to an unmarried, chaste woman.

(2) In Exodus 2:8, Moses' sister, Miriam, in her childhood is called [~`al-maw]. (3 & 4) Twice in the Song of Solomon it refers to a chorus of young women (Song of Solomon 1:3) distinguished from Solomon's queens and concubines (Song of Solomon 6:8). (5) And in Proverbs

30:19 it refers to a maiden in contrast to an adulterous woman. (6) In Psalms 68:25 the word describes the damsels who played timbrels in the sanctuary; and any assumption that those damsels were anything but virgins is impossible."

Over 250 years before Christ was born, the Septuagint (LXX) version of the Hebrew Scriptures was translated into the Greek language by seventy of the most renowned scholars on earth in their day when ancient Hebrew and konic Greek were living spoken languages. The number of these scholars and translators being reflected in the Septuagint LXX. How did they translate this verse 14? Here it is:

"O house of David ... Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive in the womb, and shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Immanuel."

The great scholars who gave us the Hebrew Bible in the Greek language 250 years before Christ was born translated the Hebrew [~`al-maw] with a word that evil men could not possibly misunderstand. We believe that no group of scholars has yet appeared in human history that outranks the ability and quality of the famed "seventy" who authored the Septuagint LXX. No Dr. Conceit, or Dr. Smart, or Dr. Anybody else has learned any more about the Hebrew tongue to Greek than was most certainly known to the Jewish translators of the Greek Septuagint Version of the Bible.

In this light we are absolutely certain that the current translators of the Revised Standard Version betrayed the faith when they translated [~`al-maw] with a corrupt rendering, "a young woman."

The 21st Century A.D. is not the era in which anyone may expect to find any new information about the meaning of Hebrew words used 2,800 years earlier.

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

The introduction to this prophecy makes it impossible of misunderstanding. Look at these words:

THEREFORE; THE LORD HIMSELF SHALL GIVE YOU A SIGN; BEHOLD; A VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE!

Can it be imagined for a single moment that such a prelude could appropriately introduce such commonplace information as the fact that some young woman would get pregnant! Ridiculous! Preposterous! Impossible!

The information that this would be a tremendous sign from God Himself and which is here preceded by the heavenly order to "Behold!" the marvelous event, has no meaning at all, unless it indicates that an event of world-shaking importance would be indicated by the forthcoming announcement, as indeed it proved to be! It is in fulfillment of the first promise of the coming Messiah was to be born of a woman cf:

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Galatians 4:4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

"Virgin shall conceive, and bear a son".-fulfilled-

Matthew 1:18-25 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. 24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: 25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.**

In verse 23 the word sign is used. The Greek word in the Septuagint LXX Old Testament is *simeion* (si-MI-on) and it means “A sign by which anything, is distinguished; proof, pledge, evidence.” The definition continues; “a wonder, remarkable event, extraordinary phenomenon, miraculous operation, a wonderful work, a miracle”.

Considering the Holy and righteous nature of God (Psalms 48:10; 65:5; 97:2; 119:137; 145:17; Jeremiah 23:6; 1 John 1:5 & 2:29), if God were going to take upon Himself flesh and blood, what sort of a young lady do you suppose He would choose to carry Himself- virgin or trollop.

Isaiah 8:1-4 Moreover the LORD said unto me, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen concerning Ma'-her-shal'-al-hash'-baz. **2 And I took unto me faithful witnesses to record, Uriah the priest, and Zechariah the son of Je-ber-e-chi'ah. 3 And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the LORD to me, Call his name Ma'-her-shalal'-hash'-baz.**

Ma'-her-shalal'-hash'-baz means feed the spoil, hasten to the booty or speed to the spoil & hasten to the prey or as we would say on the street: “Those guys are soft like: Low hanging fruit & easy pickings.”

Isaiah 8: 4-8 For before the child shall have knowledge to cry, My father, and my mother, the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria shall be taken away before the king of Assyria. The LORD spake also unto me again, saying, **6 Forasmuch as this people refuseth the waters of Shi-lo'-ah that go softly, and rejoice in Re'-zin and Rem-a-li'-ah's son; 7 Now therefore, behold, the Lord bringeth up upon them the waters of the river, strong and many, [even] the king of**

Assyria, and all his glory: and he shall come up over all his channels, and go over all his banks: 8 And he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he shall reach [even] to the neck; and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel.

This use of Immanuel here in Hebrew means God is still with us even though this great judgment is coming ... like he said before a remnant

Beginning in V:13 is another Messianic prophecy about how Judah is now really between the rock & the hard place we will study later. Now we see how the people in Isaiah's time could tell a false prophet.

Isaiah 8: 20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, [it is] because [there is] no light in them.

Isaiah 9:1-3 Nevertheless the dimness [*shall*] not [*be*] such as [*was*] in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zeb'-u-lun and the land of Naph'-ta-li, and afterward did more grievously afflict [*her by*] the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. 2 The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. 3 Thou hast multiplied the nation, [*and*] not increased the joy: they joy before thee according to the joy in harvest, [*and*] as [*men*] rejoice when they divide the spoil.

This was not a prophecy of the immediate future when Isaiah delivered it. It is predictive prophecy of the "latter" times, and related to the times of the Messiah. The anguish that came upon Zeb'-u-lun and Naph'-ta-li in ancient Israel was due to their physical location on the northern border of the Promised Land. They were the first to reap the bitter fruit of repeated invasions. Isaiah's prophecy shows that the treatment of the lands of these tribes was worse than that of some of the others, and that they would also be the first to enjoy the benefits of Christ's kingdom. Notice "Joy" twice in V:3.

Romans 14: 17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Joy is not giddy all the time but some Christians are so dower the look like they have been baptized in lemon juice. Our salvation should be a wellspring of joy, happiness, thankfulness and rejoicing.

Isaiah 12:3 Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Isaiah 29:19 The meek also shall increase [their] joy in the LORD, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 35: 10 And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The fulfillment is in Matthew:

Matthew 4:12-17 Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; 13 And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zab'u-lon and Neph'-tha-lim: 14 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, 15 The land of Zab'u-lon, and the land of Neph'-tha-lim, [by] the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; 16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Thus it was in those very places of Israel which had formerly suffered the most that Christ first came forward to teach in the synagogue of Ca-per'-na-um and there he did his first miracle in Cana of Galilee in John 2 where He turned the water to wine "Thus the light began to shine in the land where the gloom had first settled centuries earlier."

Verses 4, 5 & 6 all begin with the word "for" meaning because. The present tense is because of the certainty of the prophecy.

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called

Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

“a son is given” is a shadow of Christ’s death on the cross.

John 3: 16 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.

And his name shall be called means who He is: Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace ...” Thus a child, a son, given by God is destined to achieve eternal redemption for all of the sons of Adam willing to come to Him in the appointed way.

The expression, 'His name shall be called,' could be idiomatic for, “This will be His character and nature.”

WONDERFUL

There are five of these names and that the first one is "Wonderful." Christ is indeed Wonderful in whatever dimension one views Him.

He is wonderful in His pre-existence, in His Virgin birth, in His role as executive in Creation and in the "upholding" all things of our universe by His mighty power. He is indeed wonderful in His mighty miracles, His unsurpassed teaching, His sufferings, His prophecies, His death, burial, and resurrection. He is wonderful in fulfilling the prophecies of the Old Testament. He is wonderful in the establishment of his kingdom, the Church, and in His protection and blessing of His Holy Bride the true Church throughout history. He is wonderful in what He will yet accomplish when He appears the Second Time and shall judge the living and the dead, and assign to every man his eternal destiny.

COUNSELOR

Today we think of a therapist or a Psychologist ... then advisor to the King but this is the King Himself. When God said, "Let us make man in our own image," the most logical view places Christ in that Council

as a member of the Godhead. What a Counselor! ... that the Father in heaven would discuss with the Son the creation of mankind! A Counselor with "the words of eternal life"

John 6:68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

His counsel alone is truthfully described as "The Light of the World." His counsel only will judge men at the last day.

John 12:48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

The counsel of the Son of God is eternal.

Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Christ's word abideth forever. A single line of teaching from this Counselor is more valuable than libraries stacked full of the books of human wisdom. His counsel is the one and only Handbook and Guide to the Christian religion. No other authority exists. Upon the Last Day all the nations have been summoned to appear before the Great I AM, the word of this Counselor will be the final determiner of the fate of every man ever born.

MIGHTY GOD

The Jews, many Christians and practically all commentators have trouble with Jesus is God ... in spite of their unbelief ... it's true!The following texts refer to Jesus Christ as "God."

John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

John 1:14 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.

John 1:18: No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared [*him*].

Beyond any doubt this is the correct translation of this verse.

John 20:28: "Thomas (the apostle) answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God."

Acts 20:28: "Take heed unto yourselves, and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit hath made you bishops to feed the church of God which he purchased with his own blood."

Romans 9:5: Whose [*are*] the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ [*came*], WHO IS OVER ALL, GOD, BLESSED FOREVER. AMEN!

Charles Hodge stated that the rendition given here is the only correct rendition, pointing out that "over all" actually means "over all things." "It is supremacy over the universe that is here expressed."

I Timothy 3:16 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.

"manifest" ... fish tank example ...

Romans 9:5 Whose [*are*] the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ [*came*], who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen.

The antecedent, or, nearest pronoun, of "whose" in this passage is "God" in verse 4 and cannot be anyone else. The KJV is correct here.

Romans 9:4 Who are Israelites; to whom [*pertaineth*] the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service [*of God*], and the promises;

Titus 2:13 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

The margin (ASV) here gives the alternate reading, "Our Great God and Saviour," which is doubtless correct, as honored in the NIV. Also, see Titus 2:10.

Philippians 2:5-6 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God

Hebrews 1: 8 But unto the Son [he saith], Thy throne, O God, [is] for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness [is] the sceptre of thy kingdom.

James 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

James had heard Jesus say that no man can serve two masters.

Did he not rather mean that Christ and God were one?

II Peter 1: 1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

I John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, [even] in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

EVERLASTING FATHER

In the Bible, especially the New Testament, it is frequently said that God, the Holy Spirit, or the Son of God did certain things that in other passages may be attributed to a different member of the Godhead; and while it is true that the New Testament nowhere says that Christ begot us through the gospel, it is stated that God did so (James 1:18; 1 Peter 2:3). Since the "gospels" were delivered to mankind by the word of Christ delivered through Him and His apostles, it is no violation of the scriptures to say that Christ indeed is the "father" of

all who believe in Him through His word. It may be that "Everlasting Father" includes something of this meaning.

Hebrews 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of [our] faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Christ is called the "Author and Finisher" of our faith, and the author and protector of our faith (ASV) in Hebrews 12:2. In the same sense, therefore, that Abraham is called "The Father of the Faithful," Jesus Christ is entitled to be called the "Everlasting Father."

PRINCE OF PEACE

Jesus Christ is the only true Prince of Peace the world ever knew, and the only one that shall ever be. When the angels announced his birth over the hills of Judaea, their first word was:

Luke 2:14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Implicit in this verse, is the declaration that the promise of peace is not given to all men on earth, but only to those with whom God is pleased. Only the obedient and faithful shall know the blessedness of that peace which only the Lord can give.

Matthew 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide [*is*] the gate, and broad [*is*] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

The rebellious majority of mankind shall continue to travel in the broad way that leads to destruction.

Matthew 24:6 And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all [*these things*] must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

Furthermore, the peace which the Lord gives is a glorious inner tranquility that has no relation whatever to any turbulence on earth.

This peace comes from a oneness with God that rests in the security because he is the Lord's

Romans 14:8 For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Isaiah 9:7 Of the increase of [*his*] government and peace [*there shall be*] no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

upon the throne of David

Luke 1:32-33 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 forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end

government and peace we have studied in Isaiah 2 & 11 the Church is the Kingdom of God and the Peaceful nature of all true Christians.

“upon the throne of David” the Child born of the virgin is a new David a new shoot of Jessie. God said:

Psalms 132:11 The LORD hath sworn [in] truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

Jesus now sits on David's throne.

Acts 2:30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne.

Sources: KJV Bible, theWord.com, Coffman's Commentaries, Homer Hailey, Clarkes Commentary.