



# “The Miraculous Conception”

Rev. David J. Bauer

*When we think of Christmas, we think of the birth of Christ in a Bethlehem stable, shepherds, angels, etc. Physically though, there was nothing so miraculous about the birth of a baby in itself. But it was the conception and the fact that the mother was a virgin that made it so spectacular! There had never been nor ever would be another baby born under these special circumstances.*

Out of all the Christian doctrines, the virgin birth is probably one of the most scoffed at and doubted by skeptics. Circumstances surrounding Mary’s pregnancy are shrouded and dubious, to say the least. Jesus is considered by many to be the greatest man that ever lived, but merely a man, like us. Maybe he is a lot better than us, but still just a man.

**The virgin birth of the Son of God has always been a central and important doctrine of the Christian church.** It is important because:

**The virgin birth gives humanity to God’s Son.** –Luke 1:26-48

There is a direct purpose involved in God’s Son becoming human flesh. From the beginning of the Bible and up to the time of Christ, we have recorded history of human failure.. The first man disobeyed God and his first son murdered his younger brother. From that time on we find that the human race was depraved and unable to resist sinful practices. Humans were not to be trusted and God noted that every thought and intent of the human heart was continually sinful –Genesis 6:5. There was a need for God to send a human Savior who would reverse the curse caused by one man and bring God’s gift of grace to the helpless, sinful human race –Romans 5:18-19.

**The virgin birth gave deity to a human.** “...that holy one that shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God” –Luke 1:35b. That human baby would be like no other child ever born. He would be holy, because He would be the son of God. Though Jesus would be human because of a human birth (through His mother Mary), he would have no human father, since His conception resulted by fertilization of the Holy Spirit.

**The virgin birth would cause one human to be born without a sin nature (or depravity).** Though He would be subject to temptation in His human body, Jesus’ deity would not be subject to any possibility of sin -1 John 3:9. Deity in a human body would be the only way to preserve His sinless human person. Depravity is something we all have.



Rev. David J. Bauer, Director & Dolores Bauer, Office Assistant

Though it may not have reached its absolute worst extreme in some people, it is still the sin that lies within each of us. The evil that resides within the human heart, no one can fully know but God –Jeremiah 17:9-10. Though Jesus knew the hearts of humans around Him, He was not at all tainted by this depravity in thought or deed. He was able to say to His enemies: “Which of you can convict me of sin?” –John 8:46. Even in the hours of His trials He was declared innocent over and over again.

**The virgin birth was necessary to fulfill Old Testament prophecy.**

In Genesis 3:15, even in the Garden of Eden we find God’s redemptive prophecy that the “seed of a woman would “...bruise the head of the serpent...”

Then in Micah 5:2 we see prophetically that in Bethlehem of Judah the ruler of Israel would come forth, “...whose goings were from old, even from everlasting.” Only God is from everlasting and only in a human birth by a virgin could God be conceived and born.

Then finally, we have a prophecy over 700 years before Jesus’ birth in Isaiah 7:14. “For the Lord Himself shall show you a sign; a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name, Immanuel.” Matthew 1:23 is first to point out this fulfillment and that the meaning of Immanuel is “God with us.” For God to dwell with us physically, he needed to be in human form.

**The virgin birth was necessary in order for God to experience a human death.** After all, we know that God cannot die. He created the world and holds it together by a word of his power –Colossians 1:16-17. But since death had passed upon the entire human race, the human Jesus would suffer and die on the cross as a satisfactory payment for the sins of all humans who had ever graced this planet. Only a fully human Jesus could accomplish such a miraculous act of redemption. But only a God-man could rise from the dead three days later! To fit that role he needed a virgin birth.

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son...” –John 3:16.

People recurrently ask me if they had trouble in the early days like we are having today. I say, sure they had a lot of problems. The Apostle Paul organized a lot of churches and every church that he organized had problems. No matter where you go, wherever you have people, you have problems. I’ve told pastors, if you try to get a church without any problems, you are going to have to accept a closed church. If your wife is sitting out there as a congregation of one, she is not going to agree with you on everything. You are going to have some problems (even in your own marriage). So I say, no matter where you go there are problems.

Trouble will make you bitter or better. Keep that in mind. Men are born to trouble, there’s a cry at the beginning of life, there’s a groan at the end of it. If all men were to bring their miseries together in one place, most would be glad to take his own home at the end, rather than take a portion out of the common stock.

–Dr. Charles Svoboda, “Church Troubles”



## Cherry Dessert

- 21 oz. can Cherry Pie Filling
- ½ Cup chopped Nuts
- 1 box Jiffy Yellow Cake Mix
- ½ Cup melted Margarine or Butter

Reserve ½ cup Yellow Cake Mix and Nuts. Put remainder of Cake Mix in a 10" pie pan or a 10"X6" pan. Top with Pie Filling. Sprinkle with reserved Cake Mix and Nuts. Drizzle with melted Margarine or butter. Bake in 350 degree oven for 25 minutes. Allow to cool.

Top with Ice Cream or Cool Whip. Delicious! Compliments of Vicki Divincenzo of Summit Bible Church



No Stick Roasts: When roasting Beef, Poultry or Pork, place roast on a few stalks of Celery!

Oil on your Troubled Waters: A teaspoon of Salad Oil or butter added to water prevents rice, macaroni, etc. from sticking together; it also keeps water from boiling over.

A Teaspoon of Vinegar added to the water in which you boil potatoes will keep them nice and white.

Making Meatballs for supper? Coat the inside of an Ice Cream Scooper with Vegetable Oil Spray before using to make nice round Meat Balls that will slide out ever so smoothly.

Have a taste for Spaghetti Pie? Press cooked Spaghetti mixed with a little Melted Butter and Grated Cheese into a Pie Plate. Fill with Burger Meat and top with Cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes to melt cheese.

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# Bible Related Ministries Newsletter

Rev. David J. Bauer, Director



2020

*"But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law..." -Galatians 5:4-5a*

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## Rev. David J. Bauer's December Itinerary



Dec. 6 Calvary Baptist Church, Highland, IN  
10:45 Worship

Dec. 13 East Side Bible Church, Chicago, IL  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

### On the Lighter Side: Who is Normal?

The Bathtub Test

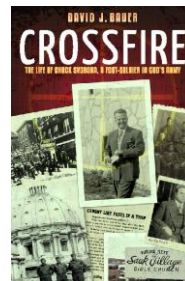
During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in a Long-Term Care Home?"

"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No," he said. "A normal person would pull the plug."

"Do you want a bed near the window?"



**From Cicero Gangland, to Enemy Gunfire, to Church Organization, to Arbitration in Churches... and beyond! The Chuck Svoboda Story & Bible Church History**

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## BRM Field Report #12

Speaking schedules and filling pulpits with all our available pastors! We continue to fill several available pulpits at the same time. But we have had some cancellations as well in churches hit by the COVID 19. The threat is real and to be taken seriously. We have seen boards and pastors call this a "hoax" and not take precautions at all, only to become a hotbed of infection of the disease. Remember, masks and isolation (quarantine) were solutions given to Moses by God so that His people would be generally free of diseases if they obeyed God's precautions. See Exodus 15:26.

But do pray for us as we travel. We are restricted by COVID rules in restaurants, hotels, and churches; as well as dangers in places we stop in to use the washrooms and refresh as we go. Churches are suffering, with board members restricting live services as well as members reluctant to return to live services. It is getting difficult for our churches to fulfill the Great Commission, with all the safety protocol and fear abounding today! Ponder the truth of 2 Timothy 1:7?

We challenge churches to have live services, even if we have 2-3 of them on Sunday morning with proper spacing and mask protocol. Respect other people's space. With the present risk, the church is no place for people to be hugging each other. While visiting churches several women have wanted to hug pastor Bauer, insisting that they hug everyone!? This does not instill a great amount of confidence in light of the present threat. And Mrs. Bauer will not permit it either!

Two of our faithful BRMers have been promoted to glory this past month:

Betty Holmquist, a long time supporter and prayer warrior for our BRM Team. Betty is mother to Kerry, wife of Rev. Larry Van Gundy, pastor of Living Stones Church in Bloomington, IL.

Esther Brouwer, a pastor's wife and widow since 1993, went to be with the Lord this past month. Esther had the distinction of reading all the way through her Bible each year. She did this over 67 times! Esther would keep up with each of our BRM prayer requests and pray for us each day! This we greatly appreciated!

Have a blessed Christmas! God is still on the throne!

Sincerely,

Rev. David J. Bauer -Isaiah 9:6