

The Miraculous Birth of the Saviour

By Horace A. Randle, M. D.

***A virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call His name Immanuel.* — Isaiah 7:14.**

Human life is derived from two parent germs. Their union is called conception, which is the very beginning of a new life. This is followed by development, and growth, until the time of birth. These phenomena are much the same as a vegetable seed which is sown in the soil of the earth. This grows and becomes a plant, which in time bears its fruit.

In that remarkable passage of Psalm 139:14-16, by reason of this analogy, David likens the maternal parent to mother earth.

"I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance yet being imperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."

LIFE EMANATES FROM BOTH PARENTS

The life is in, from, and by, the TWO parent germs — both of them. The rest is a matter of nourishment by the maternal blood, until the body is formed. It is a certain vital law that we inherit, and derive, our paternal and maternal likenesses of character and appearance, and even abilities, and susceptibilities, from, and through, those two parent germs, which are both so tiny as to be less than the point of the finest needle man can make.

Within the womb of the prospective mother, there is an active and incessant reproduction of cells — millions a day; and not only so, but these cells are of many varieties, and build up different kinds of tissue in a manner that commands the admiration of every investigator. First, there is a differentiation of the primitive, or early-formed cells, into three distinct lines of development; then the still more wonderful formation of organs, or the organization of the body which is to be, so that at birth the teeth are the only things lacking. They are the last to come, and the first to go.

THE SAVIOUR MUST BE PERFECT

It was an essential requirement that the Sacrifice for Sin — the Saviour of the World — should Himself be a perfect Man, an unblemished Lamb, and that He should give His own life for the life of the world. (John 6:51.) The law of God's righteousness demanded this, as was foreshown in the animals which were slain in connection with the Levitical ritual, whereby alone a man could come before God to worship Him. They must needs be sound, healthy, unblemished, and young, for they were intended to point to, and typify, the only holy Sacrifice God would accept for sin — His own Son.

Moreover the Lord Jesus had to become human. Though He was originally with God, and in the form of God — a Spirit Being like His Holy Father — He had to empty Himself of His heavenly glory, and be humbled down to human conditions (Phil 2:6-8) that He might be in nature, though not in knowledge, the ANTI-LUTRON, or "corresponding price," of Adam, in order to be a perfect off-set, a ransom, a suitable sacrifice. As a man had brought the whole human race into sin and condemnation, so also it was essential that a man should accomplish the atonement and the reconciliation. (Rom. 5:15-19.)

JOSEPH WAS NOT THE FATHER

It is clear that if Jesus were begotten by Joseph in the perfectly natural way. He would have, **MUST HAVE**, inherited the sin of Adam with us also. He would have been sin stained by the inevitable law of heredity, and being therefore a sinner Himself, He could not have been a Saviour; but would Himself have needed a Saviour, even as the rest of mankind. The matter has only to be stated in this plain way to show how rash is the claim that Jesus must have been the son of Joseph according to the flesh; especially because there are few things, in the New Testament which are emphasized more than the fact that Joseph had absolutely nothing to do with the generation of Jesus Christ, but to him was given the very high honor of caring for the most blessed of women, while to her also was given the still higher honor of producing and caring for the Babe who was sent by God, in this wonderful way, to redeem the world — the world, not of one generation only, but the whole human race from beginning to end. (See Rom. 8:22.)

CHRIST'S BODY NOT PRODUCED BY MARY

In order to the holiness of His human life, the perfection of His work, and the acceptability of His sacrifice, it was necessary that Jesus should know no sin. But again, it may in like manner be further argued that, if the human body of Jesus were produced from an ovum of Mary, it must have been by natural law contaminated, as would have been the case through the parent germ of Joseph. Not only does the father give life, but the mother also, and the certain proof of this is the universal fact — shown in all animal life — that the maternal characteristics and appearances go down into the offspring as well as the paternal. In this matter the mule is a most convincing object lesson.

A FALLEN HUMAN NATURE — IF FROM MARY

Had the conception of Jesus involved the employment of an ovum of Mary's, the Son of God would have been contaminated in His nature from His mother, for she also was of the Adamic and condemned race, a daughter of David, a sinner by inheritance and nature. Recognizing this difficulty, the Roman Catholics seem to claim that she was a pure and holy woman, absolutely free from sin, which we must regard as an illogical inference far too lightly embraced, nor is it the only way to meet the difficulty. Death is the wages of sin. The fact that Mary is dead proves that she was under the original condemnation, even as the rest of the human race.

A NEW PERSON WAS NOT PRODUCED

Moreover, if the original human life-cells of Joseph and Mary had been used in the formation of a body for the Son of God to become the Son of Man, then in that case, they would have carried with them all the potentialities of a new life, and the foetus would of necessity have developed into somebody else — a new individual, another separate being — but when we remember that the Son of God had been in the glory of His Father's presence and love for long eras before He came to earth at all, His coming down to be a man and die was a **TRANSFERENCE** from the heavenly to the earthly, from the mystery and glory of the spirit nature down to the simplicity of the human nature. In the birth of Jesus Christ it was not a new personality that was being formed, but a body into which He could be transferred.

LIKE FIRST ADAM, BODY PREPARED BY GOD

Our Lord and Saviour therefore could not have been produced from any original ovum of Mary's, any more than from an original germ of Joseph's. Had it been so there would have been the certain contamination of sin in the human nature of our Saviour, the blessed Son of God.

When God created Adam, He first prepared the body out of the dust of the earth; and an analysis shows us today that He used no less than seventeen different elementary substances, of which more than half of the total quantity is oxygen, which

also — in the atmosphere — is made the first necessity in the maintenance of life by respiration. When the body was thus prepared — with its 200 bones, its 537 muscles, its glands, its organs, its complex nervous system, and wonderful blood stream — then God touched it by a new divine energy quickening it to life: "He breathed into it the spirit of life," and man became a living soul. (Gen. 2:7.)

The functional activities of the organs all began to play their part — Adam lived, and in a little while, in the very necessity of his life, he became hungry; and again, in a little while, he became tired.

BODY OF JESUS, A NEW CREATION

But the body of Jesus was a new creation, even in the womb of Mary. As in the case of the First Adam, God FIRST PREPARED THE BODY of the Last Adam, (the only perfect man) (I Cor. 15:47); yet by a very different process, namely, by creating the two necessary parent germs, and by the fiat of His will launching them as one vitalized cell — into the womb of Mary, there to be implanted upon its inner surface for its evolution by nutrition, development, and growth. That is the only immaculate conception there is. Any form of conception involving the employment of the natural, primal, human germ-cells in its realization, must of necessity involve contamination, as being from the sin-polluted Adamic source, which in the case of Jesus cannot be allowed.

We understand, then, that God created within the womb of Mary a perfect, fertilized ovum — a new creation graft upon the old Adam stock — and that from thence a BODY WAS PREPARED FOR THE SAVIOUR into which He was transferred by divine power when the body was ready, namely at the birth, and with the first inspiration.

It should be noted that it was when He cometh into the world He saith, "Sacrifice and offering Thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me." The body was already prepared when He came. (See Heb. 10:5.)

AN ERROR HANDED DOWN BY CLERICS

It is manifestly going too far to affirm, that the Lord Jesus ever had any existence within the developing foetus of Mary, which the Te Deum Laudamus of the Church of England service most certainly implies by its assertion, "Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb."

It is very easy for an idea of this kind, if it strikes the fancy, to be perpetuated in the creeds by one generation of clerics after another — though quite devoid of any Scriptural support. There are many such ideas as this — all utterly unscriptural — that ought to be eliminated, in order to a clearer field for thought.

Though we do not understand that the Son of God ever entered the womb of the Virgin, we do recognize that He submitted Himself to all the limitations of babyhood, that He might be made like unto us, yet without sin. And again, though this was so, He must have grown in knowledge and wisdom faster than any other boy that ever lived. "God was with Him" even then, safeguarding Him from all harm, and from every possible danger.

Moreover, the preparation of that body for the Son of God — that He might come down to be a man and die — is the finest possible example of evolution that can be quoted. It was the out-folding of the perfect body from the divinely implanted fertilized cell.

ADAM CAME BY DIRECT CREATION

The creation of Adam was not an evolution, it was a work of art, of God's own hand

alone. Those who insist otherwise discredit the word of God, and run even more violently against all scientific findings. Every species is fixed, and none can ever be changed from one kind to another, nor have ever been, so far as any evidence can be detected and substantiated. Though much has been sought by every possible means of scrutiny, aided by brilliant and enthusiastic imagination, nothing has been found to prove, or to show, that man ever came from any other source than by magnificent creation — from the hand of Jehovah.

The species, within themselves, can be modified a good deal by breeding and rearing; but between every two species there is a great gulf fixed, across which nothing can ever go. Real evolution is a most beautiful and impressive fact, it is the unfolding of some organism, structure, beauty, or power already in the embryo within itself, and put there by the Creator. Here we may also say with confidence this is the only evolution there is. Real evolution must recognize the active and controlling hand of a Creator, as the late Professor Drummond said: "God makes worlds to make themselves."

EVOLUTION AN IMPOSSIBILITY

That which has been so commonly taught, however, and is so generally regarded as evolution, is very much more than this, it is the intemperate claim that one species has led to another, and that man has developed out of the lower animals. This is transvolution, a most obvious impossibility, against which nature, in answer to all scientific research, and to all biological investigation, cries out in strong, clear, negative terms. It is the most unproven proposition that science has ever essayed to handle, and the wonder to us is that teachers and students of science are not ashamed of their hopeless attempts to maintain, without a vestige of demonstration, the formulations and deductions of Darwinian evolution, the very name of which is a misnomer.

GOD'S WORKS ARE ALL MIRACULOUS

Why should it be considered impossible that the Divine Hand should set all processes of evolution astart? Why should it be thought incredible — simply because unnatural — that God should impregnate the Virgin Mary by the fiat of His will? To doubt the creation of man, and the miraculous conception and birth of Jesus, is a piece with the denial of all miracles; and this in turn leads to an easy rejection of God, for all God's works are miraculous, all His ways are wonderful.

"He plants His footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm," and within the observation of man none are more wonderful than the ceaseless reproduction of animal life, where limitations are easily reached in one direction, and never reached in another.

We admit it is an unfathomable wonder to account for the existence of God Himself, specially that He must always have been, even for untold ages, before there ever was anybody else, or anything else, beside Himself. Reason compels us to this conclusion, and by it we are held spell-bound in amazement. Yet it is a far greater mystery — a much more incomprehensible wonder — to imagine that God is not; for there are evidences everywhere around us, and within us, that bear testimony to the fact that superlative wisdom and power must exist somewhere. The midnight sky, the mighty sun, will bear any amount of contemplation, yet ever impress us with their majesty; and the globe on which we live, with its myriad forms of life, from the moss to the monarch, all and always evolving, and pointing back to a Beginner, never transvolving, never able to over-ride natural law, fills us with wonder.

When we consider the marvels of our own globe, with its myriad forms of life, and perpetual generation, and the microscopic beauty found everywhere, surely we cannot resist the conviction that there are none so blind as those who see no Architect, or Artist, in it all. Yes, God is: Ten million voices in nature — in sky, and earth, and sea —

proclaim, the fact; and if any further confirmation were needed we find the very finger of God in the history of the Jews, aye, and in the history of the Gentiles, also.

GOD EVIDENCED IN CREATION

God's everlasting power and divinity are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, so that even atheists, if they will but think, are without excuse. (Rom. 1:20.) Recognizing then this absolutely certain, though perfectly incomprehensible fact that God is, then no difficulty remains in regard to the only possible immaculate conception there can be, which was foretold by the prophet Isaiah, and confirmed by Luke the evangelist-physician: for all things (whatsoever He chooses to do,) are possible with God.

To deny the direct creation of a perfect man, the original progenitor of the whole human race, who fell by a trespass, and to hold an illogical conception of an evolution which does not exist, is to contradict the first chapters of the Bible; so also to deny the miracle of the divine impregnation of Mary is certainly to contradict Scriptures which are not only clear and unambiguous, but are also well attested by the oldest Greek texts extant.

THE BIBLE ACCOUNT OF CHRIST'S BIRTH

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But when he thought on these things, behold, an 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 Spirit. And she shall bring forth a son; and thou shalt call his name JESUS; for it is he that shall save his people from their sins.

"Now all this is come to pass, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying. Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel; which is being interpreted. God with us. And Joseph arose from his sleep, and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took unto him his wife; and knew her not till she had brought forth a son: and he called his name JESUS." (Matt. 1:18-25.)

"And the angel answered and said unto her. The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Most High shall overshadow thee: wherefore also the holy thing which is begotten shall be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35.)

THE CLARIFYING EFFECT OF DR. RANDLE'S TEACHING

The following comments are by REV. W. D. HERRSTROM, D.D.

Dr. Horace R. Handle's skill in the medical profession as well as in handling the Scriptures has enabled him to point out the many errors in the theory that Christ received His human nature from Mary.

If Christ did receive His human nature from Mary, then you encounter the following

difficulties:

- **A FALLEN HUMAN NATURE**

If Christ developed from the ovum of Mary and thus received His human nature from her, then it was a fallen human nature. Mary was a fallen human creature, and as such she could only bring forth "after her kind" — another fallen creature. Such an offspring could not be our Saviour.

- **THE MOTHER OF GOD**

If Mary was the "mother" of Christ according to the pattern suggested in the preceding paragraph, then she was, indeed, the "Mother of God." If so, then she is greater than God and therefore deserves worship. Then man is the creator of his own god. This makes man greater than God and leads man to worship MAN who created God.

It is easy to see how fallen man, in his pride, would like to embrace such an error. It tickles his vanity and swells his pride. Mary is portrayed in the realm of "Creator" while in reality she is only a "creature." Creatures cannot "create." They can only bring forth after their own "fallen" kind. The idea that Mary is the Mother of God, is a hangover from paganism, which creates its own gods.

- **A NEW PERSONALITY**

If Christ received His human nature from Mary, then "a new personality" was brought into existence. This could not be, because Christ has always existed and He therefore existed long before He came into this world to take upon Himself a human body.

- **A TRIBAL GOD**

If Christ received His human nature from Mary then we have a Christ with "nationality," — reduced to the level of the pagan tribal gods.

- **YOU HAVE A "HYBRID"**

If Christ developed from an ovum of Mary plus the power of the Holy Spirit, then you have a "hybrid" — half man and half god. You also have an adulterous relationship such as is forbidden in all the rest of the Scriptures. It is unthinkable that God would thus violate His own law.

- **YOU HAVE A DEMIGOD**

If Mary contributed the "human" part of Christ and if God contributed the divine, then you have a demigod — the offspring of God and man. The fallen angels cohabited with the daughters of men and produced demigods in Noah's day, before the Deluge. These wicked beings were destroyed in God's judgment. "The angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and GOING AFTER STRANGE FLESH, are set for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire." (Jude 6, 7.)

"God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment; and spared not the old world, but saved Noah." (II Peter 2:4,5.)

Would God indulge in the sin which He so emphatically condemns? A thousand times No!

- **REVOLT AGAINST FALSE TEACHING**

Modernists and infidels are not entirely to blame when they revolt against the teaching concerning the Virgin Birth when that teaching is contaminated with the

impurities of paganism. Dr. Randle's expositions have lifted this subject into a realm that truly glorifies and lifts Him forever above the level of the pagan demigods. Christ is thus presented on a high and noble plane and not made to appear ridiculous.

- **BODY PREPARED BY GOD**

Dr. Randle says that Christ's body was formed by God, as in the case of the First Adam. When the body was fully prepared, then Adam inhabited it. When Christ's body was fully prepared — then Christ came to occupy it. He bases this on Hebrew 10:5:

"When he cometh into this world, he saith. Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but A BODY HAST THOU" (God, not Mary,) "PREPARED ME."

Hebrews 10:10 says, that it was the offering of this prepared BODY that atoned for sin.

- **"A NEW THING IN THE EARTH"**

"The Lord hath CREATED A NEW THING in the earth: A woman shall COMPASS A MAN" (Jer. 31:22).

Interpreting this verse, Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown's commentary says, "The Christian Fathers almost UNANIMOUSLY (Augustine &c.) interpreted it of the Virgin Mary COMPASSING CHRIST IN HER WOMB. The word, "created," implied a divine power put forth in the CREATION OF A BODY IN THE VIRGIN'S WOMB by the Holy Ghost for the Second Adam, such as was exerted in creating the First Adam (Luke 1:35; Heb. 10:5)."

- **FULFILLS ALL PROPHECIES**

The fact that Mary was the human channel through whom Christ came, fulfills all prophecies concerning His lineage.

The "seed of the woman" (Gen. 3:15) was not an ovum of Mary producing the body of Christ. The seed of the woman was the Person of Christ — the Christ Who always existed.

"Now unto Abraham and his SEED were the promises made, He saith not, and to SEEDS, as of many; but as of ONE, And to thy SEED, WHICH IS CHRIST" (Gal. 3:16).

This is a clear statement that when the promise was made to Abraham and his SEED it referred, not to Abraham's posterity, but to only TWO PERSONS — Abraham and Christ.

Blessing was to come upon the whole world, not through any racial group, but through ONE PERSON, CHRIST.