

## The Apostles' Creed

### Born of the Virgin Mary

Isaiah 7:14 ❖ Matthew 1:18-25

“As bad as the human race is, there are some human beings who cooperate with the purposes of God, and chief among them was Mary.”  
 (“A Christian Primer,” Albert Curry Winn, p. 116)

### 1st Century Jewish Marriage Customs

*Men, when you proposed to your wife, did you get down on one knee?*

\_\_\_\_\_ as we know it was unheard of in the First Century, and \_\_\_\_\_ were arranged.

“Mary was \_\_\_\_\_ to be married to Joseph, but \_\_\_\_\_ they came together, she was found to be with \_\_\_\_\_ through the \_\_\_\_\_” (Matthew 1:18b).

“Because Joseph her \_\_\_\_\_ was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public \_\_\_\_\_, he had in mind to \_\_\_\_\_ her quietly” (v. 19).

“But an \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord appeared to him in a \_\_\_\_\_ and said, ‘Do not be afraid to take Mary home as your \_\_\_\_\_, because what is \_\_\_\_\_ in her is from the Holy Spirit’” (v. 20).

### The Virgin Birth

“This is how the birth of Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_” (Matthew 1:18a).

“But when the time had \_\_\_\_\_, God sent His Son, \_\_\_\_\_ of a woman, \_\_\_\_\_ under law to \_\_\_\_\_ those under law” (Galatians 4:4).

“All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the \_\_\_\_\_: ‘The \_\_\_\_\_ will be with \_\_\_\_\_ and will give \_\_\_\_\_ to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel - which means ‘God \_\_\_\_\_ us’” (Matthew 1:22-23; Isaiah 7:14).

“When Joseph woke up, he \_\_\_\_\_ what the angel of the Lord had \_\_\_\_\_ him and took Mary home as his \_\_\_\_\_” (v. 24).

“But he had no \_\_\_\_\_ with her until she gave \_\_\_\_\_ to a son. And he gave Him the name Jesus” (v. 25).

Through genetics we now know the \_\_\_\_\_ determines the sex.

The Virgin Birth is included in “The \_\_\_\_\_,” the Christian doctrines that EPC pastors, elders and deacons \_\_\_\_\_ believe.

### The Virgin Mary

“Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the \_\_\_\_\_ womb.” (Charles Wesley, 1738)

“Jesus was destined through the maintained \_\_\_\_\_ of His unflawed human nature to become the perfect sacrifice for human \_\_\_\_\_, and so the Savior of His \_\_\_\_\_ and of the rest of the church with her.” (“Concise Theology,” J. I. Packer, p. 112)

“Conceived by the Holy Ghost” refers only to \_\_\_\_\_.

Though Mary was arguably the best \_\_\_\_\_ who ever lived, she was, nonetheless, a \_\_\_\_\_. Note her own words: “My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my \_\_\_\_\_” (Luke 1:46-47).

### The First Christmas

Theologian Karl Barth wrote: “The Virgin Birth expresses the great \_\_\_\_\_ of Christmas.”

“While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, the \_\_\_\_\_ came for the baby to be \_\_\_\_\_, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son” (Luke 2:6-7).

It is good for us to be thinking about \_\_\_\_\_ in January.

### Takeaway

In 140 A.D., Aristides of Athens wrote: “The Christians then reckon the \_\_\_\_\_ of their religion from Jesus Christ, who is named the Son of God Most High; and it is said that God came \_\_\_\_\_ from heaven, and from a Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_ took and clad Himself with flesh, and in a \_\_\_\_\_ of man there dwelt the Son of \_\_\_\_\_.”

