

The Christmas Story on Trial

Good Morning! Merry Christmas!!

I wrote this about two years ago, and I think I'm going to make it a tradition to send it out each Christmas. I hope you enjoy my "lawyer's version" of the Christmas Story!

Do you know the real Christmas story, as told by Luke (the Physician Disciple), Matthew (first book of the New Testament), and Isaiah (a Major Prophet of the Old Testament)? Let's put the story on trial!

Trial Strategy

Eyewitness #1: Luke the Physician - Purpose of Luke's Testimony: Being a scientist by nature, Luke always strove to get every detail just right (Direct: c/v. 2:1-7)

Eyewitness #2: Matthew the Eye-Witness - Purpose of Matthew's Testimony: Augments and corroborates Luke's account of the events leading up to the birth of Christ (Direct: c/v. 1:18-25)

Expert Witness #3: Isaiah the Prophet - Purpose of Isaiah's Testimony: The clincher (slam-dunk testimony) is, as Matthew points out, how Isaiah (the Major Prophet: the Charles Stanley of his time) foretold, in astonishing detail, the birth of Christ somewhere around 700 years BEFORE it actually happened! (Direct: c/v. 7:14)

Closing Argument: Proof Beyond a Reasonable Doubt/ Preponderance of the Evidence: If this didn't make a person a believer, I guess they never would be.

Luke's Testimony v.v. 2:1-7 (AMP - The Christmas Story)

IN THOSE DAYS it occurred that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole Roman Empire should be registered. This was the first enrollment, and it was made when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all the people were going to be registered, each to his own city or town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, To be enrolled with Mary, his espoused (married) wife, who was about to become a mother. [Matt. 1:18-25.] And while they were there, the time came for her delivery, and she gave birth to her Son, her Firstborn; and she wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room or place for them in the inn.

Matthew's Testimony v.v. 1:18-25 (AMP - Expanded, Detailed, Corroborated)

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place under these circumstances: When His mother Mary had been promised in marriage to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be pregnant [through the power] of the Holy Spirit. And her [promised] husband Joseph, being a just and upright man and not willing to expose her publicly and to shame and disgrace her, decided to repudiate and dismiss (divorce) her quietly and secretly. But as he was thinking this over, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, descendant of David, do not be afraid to take Mary [as] your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of (from, out of) the Holy Spirit. She will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus [the Greek form of the Hebrew Joshua, which means Savior], for He will save His people from their sins [that is, prevent them from failing and missing the true end and scope of life, which is God]. All this took place that it might be fulfilled which the Lord had spoken through the prophet, Behold, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel—which, when translated, means, God with us. [Isa. 7:14.] Then Joseph, being aroused from his sleep, did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him: he took [her to his side as] his wife. But he had no union with her as her husband until she had borne her firstborn Son; and he called His name Jesus.

Isaiah's Prophecy v.v. 7:14 (AMP Prophesied)

Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold, the young woman who is unmarried and a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel [God with us]. [Isa. 9:6; Jer. 31:22; Mic. 5:3-5; Matt. 1:22, 23.]

I hope you experience Christmas this year through the eyes of a true child of the most high God (it's not about things; it's about the birth of the most amazing "new kid on the block" of all time)!

- Jack

Additional Corroborating Scriptures

Isaiah 9:2-7	The Birth Foretold
Luke 1:26-35	The Story of Mary
Matthew 1:18-21	The Story of Joseph
Luke 2:1-7	The Story of Jesus' Birth
Matthew 2:1-2, 7-10	The Story of the Star
Luke 2:8-14	The Story of Angels
John 1:1-4	The Lesson of Light