

FOR TO US ... (The Birth Announcement)

References: **Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:6**

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Summary: Prophecy is God's birth announcement.

GOD CAREFULLY PRE-PLANNED THE EVENT

1. Prophecy is God's birth announcement, not of months in advance, but thousands of years in advance.
2. Fulfilled prophecy is one of the greatest proofs for the spiritual authority of Scriptures.
3. The Dead Sea Scrolls are the greatest guarantee that God predicted the birth of His Son.

VIRGIN BIRTH

1. Definite implication. God told Satan, "*And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.*" (**Genesis 3:15**).
2. Man has seed and a woman has an egg, a woman will give birth without a man.
3. The heel blow by Satan represents the agony of the cross.
4. The head blow represents the judgment of Satan. (**John 12:31; 16:11**).
5. Obvious statement. "*Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.*" (**Isaiah 7:14**). God with us.
6. A sign points to a miraculous work of God.
7. Arguments for the virgin birth in **Matthew Chapter 1**.
 - a. "*Before they came together*" (**v. 18**) Abstain.
 - b. "*For that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.*" (**v. 20, ESV**).
 - c. "*Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel*" (**Isaiah 7:14**).
 - d. Calling Mary a virgin. (**v. 23**).
 - e. "*He knew her not*" (**v. 25**). No sex.
 - f. "*Her firstborn Son*" (**v. 25**). Not Joseph's.
 - g. Joseph is listed as husband of Mary, not the father of Jesus in the genealogy (**v. 16**).

C. THE PLACE

1. The home of kings. "*But you, **Bethlehem Ephrathah**, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be **Ruler in Israel**, whose goings forth are from of old, **from everlasting***" (**Micah 5:2**).
2. Messiah would be born in "O Little Town of Bethlehem."
3. Messiah would be eternal, "from everlasting."
4. Messiah would be ruler of Israel.

D. THE STAR

1. "*I see Him, but **not now**; I behold Him, but **not near**; a **Star** shall come out of Jacob; a **Scepter** shall rise out of Israel...*" (**Numbers 24:17**).
2. The star was actually Christ (**1 Peter 1:19**).
3. The star was a sign of His advent, "His star" (**Matthew 2:2**).
4. "A *scepter*" is a reference to His rule.
5. "*Not now ... not near*" is a reference to long time off, i.e., over 1300 years.

E. A CHILD

1. The gift-child. "*For unto us **a child is born**, unto us **a Son is given**; and the **government** will be upon His shoulders. And His name will be called **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace***" (**Isaiah 9:6**).
2. "... *a child is born*" represents a virgin birth as Son of David.
3. "... *a Son is given*" represents the incarnation as Son of God.
4. There is a dispensational gap between "*given*" and "*government*."
5. The child has a fourfold name, why so many names?
 - a. He does so much.
 - b. He is so much.
6. "*Wonderful Counselor*"; The word "wonder" is a miracle. He will give supernatural instruction.
7. "*Mighty God*", the child will be God Himself.
8. "*Everlasting Father*"; the reference to "*Father*" is not to the heavenly Father, but He will be the "source" of everlasting life to us.
9. "*Prince of Peace*"; a warring monarch who will finally give peace. He is the embodiment of peace.

CONCLUSION: Jesus came for you. If you have never really accepted Jesus as your personal Savior, would you do it right now?