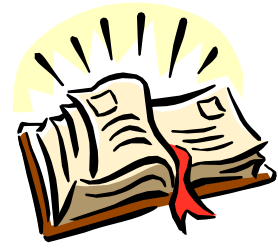


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## Miracle Births In the Old Testament. (2013)

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The Bible not only reveals God's eternal Plans, Purposes and Promises,  
But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

***Teach it, don't demand it.***

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## Miracle Births in the Old Testament.

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### Topics.

- The miraculous birth of Isaac through Sarah and Abraham.
- The birth of Jacob and Esau was a miracle birth.
- God brings David and Christ from the womb.
- God knew David in the womb.
- The Lord called me from the womb.
- God has been involved in the birth of faithful men and woman of the Bible.

### INTRODUCTION.

The following Old Testament Scriptures have glimmers of the virgin birth interwoven in the language of the prophets and the language of Scripture and shine a spotlight on the truth that God has been involved in the conception and the birth of many men and woman of the Bible and especially of those who were to be pillars in God's eternal plan for mankind's salvation that He planned and purposed in His eternal mind before the foundations of the world.

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### The Miraculous Birth of Isaac through Sarah and Abraham.

Genesis 21:1-3 ----- <sup>1</sup>The LORD visited Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did to Sarah as he had promised. <sup>2</sup>And Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age at the time of which God had spoken to him. <sup>3</sup>Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac.

Abraham was one hundred (Gen. 21:5) and Sarah was ten years younger than her husband Abraham (Gen 17:17). This means that Sarah was eighty-nine years old when Isaac was conceived and ninety when he was born. The birth of Isaac was a miracle birth.

When the LORD told Sarah she would have a son she laughed to herself because Abraham and Sarah were old and well advanced in years and the way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. When the LORD heard Sarah laugh He said to her, "Is anything too hard for the LORD?" (Gen. 18:9-14).

If God can bring about a miraculous birth in a woman well past her years of giving birth surely it is not hard to believe God can bring about a miraculous birth in a woman who is in the prime of her life especially when one considers that the LORD said to Sarah concerning the conception and birth of Isaac: -

- Is anything too hard for the LORD? (Gen. 18:14).

And said to Mary concerning the birth of Jesus: -

- Nothing will be impossible with God (Luke 1:37).
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### The Birth of Jacob and Esau was a Miracle Birth.

Genesis 25:21-24 ----- <sup>21</sup>Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren. And the LORD granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived. <sup>22</sup>The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD.

<sup>23</sup>And the LORD said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger." <sup>24</sup>When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb.

Isaac was forty-years old when he prayed this prayer (Gen 25:20) which means that Rebekah was not a young woman. Most women during the early years of the Old Testament would give birth to children while they were still very young. We are told Rebekah was barren meaning she could not have children if she could there would be no need for Isaac her husband to be praying this prayer.

The LORD was not only involved in the birth, but also told Rebekah before Jacob and Esau were born that from her would come two great nations and that she would be the mother of thousands of millions (Gen. 24:60). Since Rebekah was unable to have children until Isaac prayed for her the birth of her twins Jacob and Esau was a miracle birth.

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### **God brings David and Christ from the Womb.**

Psalm 22:9-31 ----- <sup>9</sup>You are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.  
<sup>10</sup>On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

This is a Psalm of David, but it is full of echoes of Christ as the following verses show: -

- My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? (v1).
- He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him; let him rescue him, for he delights in him! (v8).
- For dogs encompass me; a company of evildoers encircles me; they have pierced my hands and feet (v16).
- They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots (v18).

Though David is praying this prayer to the LORD concerning himself, being a king and prophet there are contained within it echoes of Christ on the cross and perhaps glimpses of Christ's birth in the following words: -

- Yet you are he who took me from the womb; you made me trust you at my mother's breasts. On you was I cast from my birth, and from my mother's womb you have been my God (v9-10).

King David said he was cast upon God from the womb and then declares God has been his God even from his mother's womb. David not only repeats that it was God that took him out of the womb but also says, "They pierced my hands and my feet," they parted my garments among them and they cast lots upon my vesture.

The language of this Psalm transcends time and directs the reader in David's present age to a future age and another King, while the reader in the future age of its fulfillment is directed back to King David's prophetic words and they clearly see Christ agony and suffering on the cross. The words David spoke when he said, he was cast upon God from the womb and that God has been his God even from his mother's belly may also be seen as a faint echo of the birth of Christ.

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### **God knew David in the Womb.**

Psalm 139:13-16 ----- <sup>13</sup>For you formed my (David's) inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>14</sup>I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. <sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in

secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. <sup>16</sup>Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them.

Certainly David was born from the union of a man and a woman, but if God was able to form David's inward parts and fashion him together in his mother's womb it surely would not have been a difficult thing for God to go one step further and actually create by the power of the Holy Spirit the seed for His very own son in the womb of the Virgin Mary or alter some genetic information so that Mary would conceive and give birth to a son.

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### **The Lord Called Me from the Womb.**

Isaiah 49:1-4 ----- <sup>1</sup>Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me (Isaiah) from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. <sup>2</sup>He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." <sup>5</sup>And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength

#### **Isaiah says that the LORD: -**

- Called him and named him from the womb.
- Called him to be God's servant and a servant to Israel.
- Made his mouth like a sharp sword and a polished arrow.
- Called him to bring Israel back to God.

#### **Isaiah also says that the LORD said: -**

- He would be his strength and glorify him in Israel.
- He has honoured him in the eyes of God.

These all apply to Isaiah, but contained within these verses is an echo of the Lord Jesus Christ.

### **The LORD has Engraved Me on the Palms of His Hands.**

Isaiah 49:14-16 ----- <sup>14</sup>But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me; my Lord has forgotten me." <sup>15</sup>"Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. <sup>16</sup>Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

The focus of Isaiah has now shifted to Zion which refers to Jerusalem the city of the God, but by extension embraces its inhabitants (i.e. the people of Israel). God though the prophet Isaiah tells Israel that they are not only His suckling child and that He would never forget them, but also that He has graven them upon the palms of His hands. This is clearly an echo of God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ, being crucified on the cross of Calvary.

#### **NOTE.**

The words, "I have engraved you on the palms of my hands" is often used to support the theory Jesus is God, but that is reading more into the verses than what Isaiah is actually saying. God is the immortal, invisible, eternal Almighty God and being immortal He cannot die. The following are two ways in which the God's words, "I have engraved you on the palms of my hands" can be harmonised with the entire Bible: -

1. The words, "I have engraved you on the palms of my hands" are an echo of the following New Testament verse, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16). It is in the sense of giving His own Son that God is saying He has engraved Israel on the palms of His hands.
2. Since Christ is often spoken of as God's right hand it is right and proper for God to say, "He has graven Israel upon the palms of His hands."

**For further information concerning Jesus being God, see the title:-**

- Trinity (The Doctrine of the Trinity).
- In Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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### **God has been involved in the Birth of Faithful Men and Woman of the Bible.**

The following verses show that God is involved in the birth of a child and the development of its bones and form in the womb: -

God healed the womb of wives and maids and they bore children.

- Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. For the LORD had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife (Gen. 20:17-18).

God opened Rachel's womb and she conceived.

- Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, she envied her sister. She said to Jacob, "Give me children, or I shall die!" Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel, and he said, "Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?" Then God remembered Rachel, and God listened to her and opened her womb and she conceived (Gen. 30:1-2) (Gen. 30:22-23).

God shut up Hannah's womb.

- To Hannah he (Elkanah) gave a double portion (of the sacrifice) because he loved her, though the LORD had closed her womb and her rival used to provoke her grievously to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb (1 Sam. 1:5-6).

God brings Job from the womb.

- Job said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away (Job 1:21).

God fashioned Job and his manservant and maidservant in the womb.

- Did not he (the LORD) who made me (Job) in the womb make him (Jobs manservant and maidservant)? And did not one fashion us in the womb? (Job 31:13-15).

God took King David out of his mother's womb.

- You O Lord, are my (David's) hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth. Upon you I have leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my mother's womb (Psalm 71:5-6).

God fashions David in the womb.

- You formed my (David's) inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I am fearfully and wonderfully made. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them (Psalm 139:13-16).

God makes all humans in the womb.

- As you do not know the way the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything (Eccles. 11:5).

God makes and forms Jacob from the womb.

- Thus says the LORD who made you, who formed you from the womb and will help you: Fear not, O Jacob my servant (Isaiah 44:2).

God formed Jacob from the womb.

- Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, who formed you (Jacob and Israel) from the womb: "I am the LORD (Isaiah 44:24).

John the Baptist is filled with the Holy Spirit in the womb.

- Many will rejoice at his birth (John the Baptist) for he will be great before the Lord and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb (Luke 1:14-15).

Mary conceived in her womb and brought forth a son.

- The angel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God and behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus" (Luke 1:30-31).

Elisabeth baby leaped in her womb.

- When Elisabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy (Luke 1:41-44).

Gabriel named Jesus before he was conceived in the womb.

- At the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb (Luke 2:21-23).

God separated Paul from his mother's womb.

- When it pleased God, who separated me (Paul) from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace (Gal. 1:15).

God is given credit for Elizabeth baby John the Baptist.

- After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, "Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people" (Luke 1:24-25).

**From these verses we are told that God: -**

- Closes the womb of woman so they cannot bear children.
- Heals and opens the wombs of woman so they conceive.
- Fashion a child in the womb.
- Knows us before our birth.
- Forms our inward parts and knits us together in the womb.
- Makes the bones in the womb of a woman with child.
- Formed us from the womb.

**Added to these we see that: -**

- John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb.
- The child Mary conceived in her womb was named Jesus before he was born.
- Elizabeth's baby (John the Baptist) was filled with the Holy Spirit in womb of Elizabeth and leapt with joy in her womb when she saw Mary.
- Jesus was given his name before he was conceived in the womb.
- God separated Paul from his mother's womb.

These verses shine a spotlight on the truth that God has been involved in the conception and birth of many faithful woman of the Bible which seems to make it foolishness to think that God did not bring about the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ God's very own Son. These verses shine a spotlight on the truth that God was involved in the birth of many men and woman of the Bible and especially of those who were to be pillars in God's eternal plan for mankind's salvation that He planned and purposed in His eternal mind before the foundations of the world.

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End.