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W. O. Vaught

Ouachita Baptist University

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"THE VIRGIN BIRTH" NO. 2

A STUDY OF I TIMOTHY
NUMBER 26
I TIMOTHY 2:13-15

Dr. W. O. Vaught
Immanuel Baptist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

We have come now to this last verse of this chapter.

Verse 15 "Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety."

"Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing." This is an historical reference to the virgin birth. Let me give a corrected translation now of verses 9 - 15 and then we will come back and complete our study of the virgin birth.

Verse 9 "Likewise I have made a command decision that women should make themselves beautiful by respectable well arranged clothing associated with respect and good judgement (referring of course to sound mind) not with emphasis upon high fashion, hair styling, and gold jewelry or pearls or expensive clothing."

Verse 10 "But what becomes fitting for a woman being promised super grace status through intrinsic good accomplishment."

Verse 11 "Women be learning in silence with entire subordination but I do not permit a woman to teach nor do I permit her to exercise authority over the man but to be in silence."

Verse 12 "For you see, first Adam was formed, then Eve. Now Adam had not been deceived but although that woman had been completely deceived, she had come to be in the transgression with the result that she remained in the transgression."

Now come down now to verse 15.

Verse 15 "She shall be saved through childbearing." This is an historical reference, as I have said, to the virgin birth and we have already begun in our last paper the virgin birth.

I. Definition: the virgin birth refers to one birth in all human history namely the incarnation of Jesus Christ, the second person of the trinity, the eternal God who at the point of virgin birth, entered into the hypostatic union and became the unique person of the universe. Today, the Lord Jesus Christ is the God-man, undiminished deity, and true humanity in one person forever.

II. Jesus Christ was conceived by the Holy Spirit therefore, born totally apart from human copulation.

III. In this way, Christ came into the world without the imputation of Adam's sin and without an old sin nature.

Furthermore, he lived a life of 33 years without personal sin and was therefore qualified to go to the cross and this begins a very interesting principle: no virgin birth, no salvation. How many times have you heard me say that? We will make a distinction between the immaculate conception (Roman Catholic heresy) for Mary was not perfect and Mary had an old sin nature. The Roman Catholics claim Mary was perfect and this is incorrect. It is not biblical.

IV. The necessity for the virgin birth.

This idea is based on the fact that the old sin nature is passed down to the human race through the human Father. This is true because man sinned in cognizant, he understood, he knew exactly what he was doing. The woman was involved in the transgression but sinned in ignorance. She didn't understand. After the fall, Adam had an old sin nature and Adam was spiritually dead. After the fall, Eve had an old sin nature and she was spiritually dead. The moment that Eve, the first sinner partook of the forbidden fruit, she died spiritually. The moment Adam ate of the forbidden fruit, he died spiritually. But they lived physically almost 1000 years after that time so quite obviously, the wages of sin is not physical death but spiritual death. Adam and Eve were both spiritually dead. The woman was now activated in childbearing. The Fallopian tubes became activated and so, copulation was not now just for recreation but was for the perpetuation of the human race. A number of children were born to Adam and Eve. The girls became wives for their brothers at the beginning of the human race. There was no such thing as incest at that time and the inter marriage of brothers and sisters was the order of the day at the beginning of the race. When Cain was born as the result of the copulation of Adam and Eve, he received his father's old sin nature. Please note, his mother had an old sin nature but he did not receive it from her. At the point of birth of Able, he received his father's old sin nature. The old sin nature is passed down through the man in copulation. (The child becomes a human being at the time the air hits the human body and becomes an independent life. Up to that time, it is dependent upon the life of father and mother. The Hebrew says, n-shemah, (the spark of life) hits the form and it becomes an independent person. The child is not a member of the human race with soul and spirit until the moment that air hits the body and we call that human birth. At the point of physical birth, Seth received his father's old sin nature. The girls that were born to Adam and Eve received their old sin nature in the same way - from the father. The Bible says the mother was in the transgression but she was deceived and she was the first member of the human race guilty of blind arrogance. When Mary was born thousands of years later, she received her father's old sin nature and she was a sinner and was born spiritually dead. But when she was engaged to Joseph, before they had copulation, Mary (who came down through the line of Nathan who was one of the sons of David and Bathsheba) became pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Mary up to that time was what is called parthenos, or h-almah in Hebrew, and means virgin birth. She remained a virgin until after the birth of Jesus Christ. When Jesus Christ was born, there was no old sin nature handed down. All Jesus had to do was to remain sinless until the cross, which he did, and was therefore qualified to bear the sins of the world. Now Christ was sinless in three ways:

1. No imputation of Adam's sin.
2. He did not have an old sin nature.
3. He did not commit any mental or verbal or overt sin during his life time.

Now we are born physically alive but spiritually dead. But Jesus Christ is the exception and Joseph did not copulate with Mary thus Jesus did not receive an old sin nature from Joseph because he was conceived by the Holy Spirit. The only person in human history, born as a free man, and he is called the last Adam. The first Adam was sinful. The first Adam was created without an old sin nature and was innocent and temporarily perfect. The last Adam was born without an old sin nature and never sinned. Christ is the son of David and the one to fill the Davidic Covenant. No one else was qualified to be the Saviour of the world except Jesus Christ. Buddah was not; Confucious was not; Mary Baker Patterson Eddy was not; Joseph Smith was not; Brigham Young was not. All members of the human race are born spiritually dead with an old sin nature. Therefore, the virgin birth is the only way a person could come into the human race apart from spiritual death and this happened to Jesus exactly this way.

- V. The first prophecy of the virgin birth is Genesis 3:15-16. When you have rulership, you do not have equality. No gentleman takes advantage of his rulership. Let's get a few concepts about that:
- A. The human race is now divided into two conflicting camps.
 - B. The historical phase of the angelic conflict includes the seed of Satan (unbelievers) influenced by Satan versus the seed of the woman (believers) influenced by doctrine. This will continue through all human history.
 - C. Just as angelic forces are divided into two forces (fallen and elect) so the human race is divided into two forces (saved and unsaved), John 3:36.
 - D. The entire doctrine of Christianity is based on the doctrine of the virgin birth.
 - E. The virgin birth is the mechanics of the incarnation by which Jesus Christ accomplishes the true victory of the angelic conflict. The first victory was his own strategic victory which he accomplished at the cross and the resurrection and his ascension and being seated at the right hand of God. Then the second victory, the tactical victory, will come about in his second advent when Satan will be removed and all demons removed and he will rule not just for a thousand years but he will rule forever and forever.
 - F. The woman lost out in the Garden because she rejected authority. The authority of Jesus Christ as her right pastor and the authority of Adam as her right man.
 - G. The woman regained through receiving Christ as her Saviour and the authority of the word of God.
 - H. The woman listened to the voice of evil in the Garden; now she must listen to the voice of the word of God.
 - I. All of this is prophesied through the virgin birth and the task of childbearing.
- VI. Another prophecy was Isaiah 7:14. Ahaz, the king of Judah is in coalition with the Northern kingdom to form a coalition with Syria against Judah. At this time, Isaiah came to give Ahaz comfort but Ahaz was negative toward Bible doctrine and when Isaiah said to him, "Ask a sign of God from below or from

above." Ahaz, appearing to be so pious, said, "Why I would not require a sign from God." Isaiah said, "Oh no you wouldn't but the Lord himself will give you a sign, a super natural manifestation. Behold the virgin." Matthew translates that h-almah as parthenos and this refers to a virgin, a woman who has never been touched by a man. "He will give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall become pregnant." It is so definite in God's plan that he puts it in the perfect tense in the Hebrew as though it had already occurred. "And shall bear a son." That son is described in Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a child is born (his humanity), unto us a son is given (his diety), and the government shall be upon his shoulders (the second advent). His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the might God, the Father of eternity, and the Prince of Prosperity. His name is Immanuel." It means virgin birth.

VI. The historical fulfillment of this prophecy is given in Matthew 1:19-25. "And Joseph, her husband, being a righteous man, and not wanting to publicly to disgrace her, desired to divorce her secretly but while he was pondering this, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream saying, 'Do not be afraid to retain Mary as your wife for that which has been conceived in her is from the source of the Holy Spirit and she will give birth to a son and you will call his name Jesus for it is he who will save his people from their sins.' Now all of this had come to pass that what was spoken from the Lord to the prophet, Isaiah, might be fulfilled. And Joseph rose up from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and he acknowledged her as his wife but he did not have sexual intercourse with her until she had given birth to a son. When she had given birth to a son, he called his name Jesus." David and Bathsheba had four sons but two of them are very important for our study at this point, Solomon and Nathan. The line of Solomon became the ruling line and goes down to Coniah and it is cut off there because the Bible says "Because of his gross sin, never a son of Coniah will sit on David's throne and could not fulfill the Davidic Covenant." But on Nathan's side it goes down to Mary and this is where the covenant will be fulfilled, through Mary and through the virgin birth.

VII. The result of the virgin birth.

There are two passages here, I Timothy 3:16 and John 1:14. "And the word became flesh and pitched his tent with us and we beheld his glory, glory of the unique one from the Father full of grace and doctrine." So this passage says, "She shall be saved through childbearing." The parenthesis closed right there. We have had a parenthesis all the way down from verse 11 through the first part of verse 15 and now it picks up again after that. All of this we have studied has been the parenthesis. That brings into focus now the doctrine of metamorphism and let us look at this doctrine.

DOCTRINE OF METAMORPHISM

I. Definition: the word metamorphism comes from a Greek word metamorphoo meaning to transform, to change in form.

- II. The word can be used for outward, visible transformation like Christ being transfigured as is told in Matthew 17:2.
- III. The verb can also be used for an inner invisible change or transformation as in Romans 12:2.
- IV. However, the theological connotation has to do with a striking change of form, thought, or action.
- V. There are six metamorphisms in scripture.
 - 1. Innocent man in the Garden was changed into a sinner by his own acts of volition. He became spiritually dead by one act of divine judgement, Genesis 3:6.
 - 2. The two, Adam and Eve, became spiritually dead - fallen woman from Satan and fallen man from the temptation offered him by the woman. Then they had "Operation Fig Leaves" which we call human good. This second metamorphism is the woman becoming a childbearer.
 - 3. Eternal God came into the world through childbearing. As God, he could not go to the cross and he had to become a human to go to the cross so he had to become the God-man. He becomes flesh and dwells among us. This is the means of our salvation.
 - 4. Sinful man by faith becomes a regenerated man, Titus 3:5.
 - 5. The royal family in time producing spiritual good as he moves on toward super grace and ultra super grace.
 - 6. The eternal metamorphism of the family of God when we get our resurrection body, when we are changed from humanity into the likeness of Jesus Christ.

Verse 15 "Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing." This has reference to the virgin birth and to the fact that the woman is to bear children and the man is to rule over her. Then notice the rest of that verse says, "If" and that "If" is not referring to what has gone on before, not the parenthesis. "If" goes back way up there to that first word in verse 10, "But, if they shall continue in faith and charity and holiness and sobriety." This "if" means if they persist in doctrine and love, this is experiential sanctification. "If" they persist in doctrine and love and experiential sanctification with stability of mind. "They shall be saved in childbearing has to do with verses 10-14 but does not have to do with this closing phrase.

Notice it says, "If they shall continue" and this is an aorist active subjunctive of meno. "En pistis, in doctrine, and love, en agape even by means of the filling of the Holy Spirit and that is holiness there, and sobriety, even in stability of mind." We will read it, "Even in sanctification."

Put these two last studies together and you will have the complete doctrine of the virgin birth.