

Title: *“The Apologetics of Isaiah Chapter Seven”*

Sub-Title: *“The Apologetics of the Virgin Mary”*

Isaiah's Key Verse: The study of the book of Isaiah has as its subject, the Lord Jesus Christ, as seen in Isaiah's theme verse: *Isaiah: 9:6 “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”*

Introduction: However as we look at Isaiah chapter Seven our key verse for this chapter is verse fourteen. “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” Before we even begin our study we have to take a full stop to recognize the significance of the Virgin Mary being prophesied B.C. 742 before the human birth of Jesus.

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This brings us to a very important aspect that Jesus was and is an uncreated being. That is to say, that He had no beginning and will have no end. He is eternity past and into eternity future. If you have Jesus in your heart and life, than He will be in all of your tomorrows!

This is important to mention as there have been many attacks against Christianity over the centuries, and ultimately these attacks to discredit Christianity have always attacked the deity of Jesus Christ. So not only is the prophesied virgin birth of Christ significant and central to the truth claims of Christianity, but also the assents of Jesus Christ relative to His human birth and His baptism essential to His Deity.

The way to understand the assents of Christ' Deity and His humanity is to identify both of these assents of Christ' character as what is called the hypostatic union. This simply means that Christ, during His earthly life was 100% human and 100% God. Sometimes He is referred to as the God-Man. So at the birth of Jesus (Isaiah 7:14) He was the God-Man. And at His baptism

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(Matthew 3:16 “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:”) He was the God-Man.

A fourth century heresy taught that the Spirit of God entered Jesus at His baptism. This is false! Jesus was God prior to His baptism by John the Baptist, and Jesus was God prior to His virgin birth by Mary. Jesus came in the form of a human so that He could identify with humanity, and so that He could lay down His life for the sins of the world. Relative to our key verse today in Isaiah 7:14 His virgin birth to Mary and Joseph are a fulfilled prophecy that is one of many that is a proof of the trustworthiness of the Word of God, and that Jesus is who He claims to be, the Saviour of the world.

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- If Jesus is not who He says He is, all of His claims must be rejected.
- If the prophecy of Jesus' virgin birth did not happen, than Isaiah should have been put to death, and Judaism and Christianity would be debunked as just another false prophet.
- If Jesus was not Deity at His birth or at His baptism by John, than He could not be the prophesied Messiah, and we must look for another.
- But since Jesus was born to the prophesied parents; to the prophesied Davidic lineage; to the prophesied time and location; to the prophesied virgin birth.
- The world must accept that Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of Genesis 3:15 and Isaiah 7:14 and many other Messianic prophecies.

- All other truth claims of Jesus Christ must be accepted; and all the truth claims of the Bible must be accepted as the Word of God.

- If Jesus Christ has been proven to be the promised Messiah as predicted in Isaiah 7:14 than all false religions and heresies must be rejected.

Prophecies Clarification:

- A. ***The first prophecy: Genesis 3:15*** “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.”
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- B. ***The subject prophecy: Isaiah 7:14*** “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

C. *The prophecy mate: Matthew 1:18-23* “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”

D. *What is prophecy? Rev. 1:3* “Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.”

E. *When prophecy happened? Rev. 22:18* “For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:”

F. *Who is a prophet? II Peter 1:20-21* “Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

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- I. Prophecy is a major apologetic, which is an argument for the faith, and a biblical worldview.

- II. A biblical argument for the faith will many times be an affront to the laws of nature, and many times an affront to human reason.

- III. The prophet Isaiah was giving prophecies that he or no one else could possibly know ahead of time, other than for Divine intervention.

- IV. Our study of the prophet Isaiah is a classic example of the conflict between the naturalist and the theistic worldviews.

- V. The naturalist, or unbeliever, only sees the physical life, and is completely oblivious, or unconcerned with the spiritual life that is always taking place in our world.

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VI. The theist is one that is a believer in a mono, theistic God. The theist is a believer in Jesus Christ. The theist recognizes both the physical and the spiritual realms. Here is a passage from my book, Transformation Truth relative to a theistic worldview.

A. “The Naturalist worldview asserts that God does not exist in part because of the evil and suffering in the world. The Naturalist may believe in a moral worldview but says that those morals come from someone other than a Divine Being. The Naturalist also may argue that because the world does have evil in it and because suffering does occur, that proves that God does not exist. And if God does not exist, then that would further prove that the Naturalist cannot and should not be held accountable to this non-existent God. Where the theist and the Naturalist disagree regards the responsibility one takes for his actions.”¹

¹ Andrew Knight, Transformational Truth (New Smyrna Beach, FL: Knight Theological Publications, 2018), 20.

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B. The Theistic worldview believes that God is moral and just and is the Source of all good in the world. The battle lines are therefore drawn along these subtopics. This list is not intended to be comprehensive regarding worldviews but considers all of the major points of conflict between the naturalist and the theist. The Theist maintains that there is a Creator of the universe and that man is accountable to the moral God and Creator. The Theist believes that there must be a Source of truth and that that truth is found in Jesus Christ. Truth then defined dictates that right and wrong exist, and thus there are Christian ethics that must be followed. Once again, the naturalist and the Theist partially agree that in fact evil and suffering pervade the world, but the Theist believes the source of evil and suffering is Satan and that God is not the Author of evil. The Theist believes that man has free will and that man is accountable to God for his actions. Finally, the theist adheres to the idea that the existence of ethics gives moral purpose to life.”²

² Ibid., Knight, 21.

Applications:

1. Download Knight's Notes on: Excellent Way.tv.
2. Read Isaiah chapter eight before we get together again.
3. *Memorize Isaiah 7:14* "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."
4. Study and discuss Isaiah chapter seven with family and friends. Email me any questions that you have relative to Isaiah chapter seven.
5. Share our ministry website on you social media.
6. Subscribe and share on our YouTube channel.

Where we began:

- We discussed the key verse 7:14 which prophesied the virgin birth of Jesus Christ.
- We discussed how the Jesus Christ is an uncreated being that is eternal past to eternal future.
- We discussed the fact that Jesus' Divinity before His virgin, human birth and baptism are central to His Deity.
- We also discussed that Jesus was the God-Man, and His humanity was so to identify with the suffering of humanity.
- We talked about the apologetics of the virgin birth.
- We also offered clarifications of prophecies.
- We concluded talking about naturalist and a theist.

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Next time:

- Further background and the Apologetics of Isaiah chapter eight.
- An exegetical study of the text.
- Further discussion of a theistic worldview.
- Apologetic applications offered.