

## Rediscovering Jesus in the Jewish Gospels

### God with David's DNA

#### Lesson 6

**God came in human flesh.** Theologians call it *incarnation* or the in-fleshment of Deity.

John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

14 And the Word was **made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

We read the account in Luke 3 and in Matthew 1:18-25. Matthew's genealogy of Joseph, husband of Mary who gave birth to Jesus, records 42 generations back to Abraham and 28 generations back to King David. These records, preserved in 61 AD about nine years before Jerusalem was destroyed, are the oldest and the only continuous genealogical record of any Jew of the Second Temple period that has survived into the modern era. This is long before the modern science of DNA could have provided hard evidence connecting the dots from Joseph to King David. God became genetically connected to King David. 23 chromosomes comprise the DNA strand. Instead of going to the website "23 & Me" for ancestral origin we have "23 and THEE" in Matthew 1 to see how Jesus the Son of God is the son of David.

One of the tools of the science of DNA is "genetic mapping – which can confirm characteristic patterns... referred to as markers, that a disease transmitted from parent to child is linked to one or more genes because a single chromosome in a reproductive cell contains some stretches of DNA inherited from the person's mother and some from his or her father." <sup>1</sup> (Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA))<sup>2</sup>

#### How did David's LORD become a descendant of David?

The answer is found in the Davidic Covenant we studied in lesson 5. "If my covenant *be* not with day and night, *and if* I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth; Then will I cast away the **seed of Jacob, and David** my servant, so that I will not take *any* of **his seed to be rulers over the seed of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.**" Jeremiah 33:14-26

Clearly Messiah would be a descendant of David who would rule over the descendants of Abraham.

We saw in Isaiah 9:6 that Messiah would be a "child given" and a "son born."

King Solomon asked "Who hath established all the ends of the earth? what *is* his name, and **what is his son's name**, if thou canst tell?" Proverbs 30:4 Where did Solomon get this idea of God having a son? He got the idea from King David! Psalm 2:2,12 "The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed. **Kiss the Son**, lest he be angry, and **ye perish from** the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. **Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.**"

While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus quoted David's words from Psalm 110:1 and asked them,

"What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, *The Son* of David.

He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying,

The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? **If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?** And no man was able to answer him a word" Matthew 22:41-46

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." Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us **a child is born**,

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<sup>1</sup> [Genetic Mapping Fact Sheet \(genome.gov\)](https://www.genome.gov/genetics-glossary/genetic-mapping)

<sup>2</sup> [DNA - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DNA)

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.”

**What could they have answered based on known Hebrew scriptures?**

**God would have to enter time and space and be born physically from a Jewish descendant of David.**

**For David’s descendant to rule an eternal Kingdom, he would have to be eternal.**

I Chronicles 17:14 “But I will settle him in mine house and in my kingdom for ever: and his throne shall be established for evermore.”

**The precedent of God taking on human form had been previously set in the *Torah*/Law of Moses.**

- **God came in flesh to Abraham.**  
Genesis 18:1 “And the **LORD** appeared unto him.”
- **Abraham saw what appeared as 3 men. They sat and ate a meal with him.**  
Genesis 18:8,22 “They did eat. And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the **LORD**.”
- **Two of the three that ate then left were angels.** Genesis 19:1 “And there came two angels to Sodom at even.”
- **God was physically on earth with Abraham and in Heaven at the same time.**  
Genesis 19:22 ,24 “but Abraham stood yet before the **LORD**,” “Then **the LORD** rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from **the LORD out of heaven**.”
- **God was very clear that He would be the Messiah in flesh.** Isaiah 48:12 -17

Vs 12	Who is speaking?	God	Is He speaking in 1 <sup>st</sup> person of Himself? Yes
Vs 13	Who is speaking?	God	Is He speaking in 1 <sup>st</sup> person of Himself? Yes
Vs 15	Who is speaking?	God	Is He speaking in 1 <sup>st</sup> person of Himself? Yes
Vs 16	Stop at “There am I.”		
	Who is speaking?	God	Is He speaking in 1 <sup>st</sup> person of Himself? Yes
Vs 16b	Who is speaking?	God	Is He speaking in 1 <sup>st</sup> person of Himself? Yes
Vs 17	“the Lord GOD, and his Spirit, hath sent me. Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer, the Holy One” (Hebrew -“ha’ Moshiaac” “Messiah”) of Israel.”		

**In other words, “I God sent Me myself as Messiah.”**

**These two Hebrew scriptures (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6) were quoted by the angel to Joseph.** Matthew 1:23-25

“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**.” Matthew 1:24-25 “Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

**Joseph was deeply disturbed that Miriam who was espoused to him was pregnant. He thought of privately annulling the engagement. The angel explained:**

“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.” Matthew 1:20,21

**For Holy God to become the incarnate Messiah, there could be no human father lest the Messiah be tainted with the original sin nature of Adam. The only way Holy God could become incarnate sinless man is through a virgin birth.**

David explains our innate sin nature from birth. "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me." Psalm 51:5 Former Rabbi Saul of Tarsus, disciple of Gamaliel, and chief Pharisee known as Paul the Apostle said.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." Romans 5:12

**Was the prophecy of Isaiah about any young woman or a virgin giving birth?**

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14

**Answering the objections - There are two Hebrew words God could have used for virgin "almah" or "bethuwlah."**

**Objection #1. "The word, (almah) in the original language is often translated young woman."**

Jewish Rabbinical apologists assert that if virgin was the meaning, "bethuwlah" would have been used.

1. **almah** (al-maw) From Strong's concordance #05958; 1630b; n f

*Almah* – rarely was used and was consistently translated virgin  
 Genesis 24:16,43 – of Rebecca as a bride to be wed to Isaac  
 Exodus 2:8 – of Moses' sister Miriam  
 Song of Solomon 1:3;6:8 – of virgins chosen for King Solomon

To quote one scholar, Alan A. Macrae "There is no instance in the Old Testament where it can be proved that this word *almah* designates a young woman who is not a virgin."

2. **bethuwlah** (beth-oo-law)

From Strong's concordance #01330 Pass. Participle meaning to separate; – 295a; n f

Is the "more precise" Hebrew word "bethuwlah"? In the **New Jewish Publication Society**, "bethuwlah" is translated mostly as "virgin" (31 of 50 times).

**To the argument that if God meant virgin, He would have used the clearer of the two words. – He did - Almah.**

**Proof from extra biblical usage** Greek word – *parthenos* always means virgin. It is the root word from which "The Parthenon" in Athens is translated, (Temple of the Virgin).

**Proof from the Septuagint** (the translation of the Hebrew OT into Greek) Over two-hundred years before the NT was written, the 70 Jewish translators always chose the Greek word *parthenos* ("virgin") when translating the Hebrew word *almah*. Later in the middle-ages, Rashi, the most famous Medieval Rabbi said that *almah* was to be translated as virgin.

**Objection #3. Any young woman could have delivered a baby to be Messiah. Messiah would only be human.**

(Talmudic Tradition - Messiah is only human but divinely empowered.)

What would be so miraculous as to be a sign if a young woman conceived and gave birth? Nothing unusual at all to warrant attention! Thousands of young women give birth every day and it would be no special "sign".

Isaiah 7:14 *Ha almah* speaks of a specific one. The Virgin. **Only one particular virgin birthing the Messiah.**

**"Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus."**

**The virgin who would bear a son who was God Incarnate would herself have to be a descendant of King David.**

One of my early instructors Steve Herzig, a Jewish believer in Jesus, gave his testimony of growing up in a Jewish home. His view of the Christian belief of the virgin birth was simple. Mary got in trouble with Joseph and they needed an alibi. He believed it was a cover up and found it amazing that anyone could believe that the incarnation was true. He had never heard of a virgin giving birth, nor had he talked with anyone who believed such a thing. It seemed illogical to him and impossible. Yet he later found within the pages of his Jewish scriptures many things that were illogical and seemingly impossible. For example:

- Moses talked to a burning bush that was not consumed.
- Sampson possessed super-human strength because his hair was long and uncut from birth.
- Lot's wife turned to a pillar of salt because she looked back at the destruction of Sodom.
- Abraham's wife gave birth to a son when he was 100 and she was 90.

When she first heard the prediction of the angel she laughed out loud, and the angel asked; "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" Luke 1:37

**A look at four key principles shows the necessity of the virgin birth, and erase all doubts.**

"there is nothing too hard for thee" Jeremiah 32:17

### 1 Principle of separation by sin

- **Man was separated from God by his sin**

"Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God.... **so he drove out the man**; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and **a flaming sword**...to keep the way of the tree of life." Genesis 3:8,23

- **Man was separated from God by the Law**

"And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai. **whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death**" Exodus 19: 10-12

- **Man was separated from God, and could only approach Him by the priesthood**  
"And let them make me a sanctuary; **that I may dwell among them.**" Exodus 25:8

2. **Principle of atonement by the blood** He made a way through the shedding and offering of the blood of the lamb, by a Priest to receive forgiveness & atonement for the sin that separates Him from God. "For **the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.**" Leviticus 17:11

**Animal blood was not permanent or complete but was only a temporary covering.**

"Every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, **which can never take away sins**" Hebrews 10:11 "For the law ... can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. 2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. 3 But in those *sacrifices there is* a remembrance again *made* of sins every year. 4 For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins." Hebrews 10:1-4

**Virgin birth rationale:** God required a blood sacrifice for sin. It must be that of a sinless Human being, untainted by the bloodline of Adam, human yet Divine. Only God himself, conceived in human flesh via virgin birth could meet that requirement. Jesus's body contained the DNA of David and of God.