**"THE MIRACULOUS CONCEPTION OF THAT HOLY THING"- (Miracle series #19)...(Isaiah 7:10-16)(Luke 1:26-35)(v.35)**

**Isaiah's prophecy of the VIRGIN BIRTH was spoken some 800 years before it happened; and throughout the many centuries the people of Israel looked for the promised miracle. I used to preach that every woman who became pregnant hoped that her child would be the Messiah....but I don't believe I was accurate in my earlier assumptions! Because a woman would know if she were a PRENANT VIRGIN OR NOT!!! \*Luke mentioned ANGELS 23 times in his book; more than any other book of the bible! And, we are told by Luke that 6 months after Elisabeth became pregnant with John the Baptist that the angel Gabriel (The one who talked to the OT prophet Daniel) came from the throne of God himself to visit the tiny village of Nazareth. Only two angels are named in scripture: Michael the ACTING angel...and Gabriel, the one who announces things; and boy did he ever have an announcement!!!**

**NAZARETH was located about 70 miles north of Jerusalem in the Roman province of Galilee. Some early writers say that Nazareth was of considerable size (around 15,000 residents); but archeologists tend to think that only a few hundred lived here in the time of Christ. How many lived there doesn't really matter...but what matters is that the GREATEST MIRACLE EVER OCCURED THERE---GOD BECAME MAN!!!** (**Yes, we've covered many miracles--"resurrection" is a BIGGIE...but even that is not as big as the EMMANUEL MIRACLE---to IT and IT ALONE the angels would sing "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE GOODWILL TOWARD MEN"!)**

***\*THIS VIRGIN HAD A LOT GOING FOR HER WHEN GABRIEL STARTED TALKING:***

**(a)-She had GREETING--"Hail"**

**(b)-She had GRACE-------"Thou art highly favored"**

**(c)-She had GOD----------"The Lord is with thee"**

**(d)-She had GLORY-------"Blessed art thou among women"**

**This is the 3rd time Gabriel has frightened the person he was sent to visit! He scared DANIEL in the OT; He earlier frightened Zacharias in the Temple, and now Mary is "troubled"! Seeing the SUPERNATURAL has and will always scare people! But Gabriel goes on to tell Mary that she doesn't have to be afraid because of divine FAVOUR (or GRACE) from God....(Yes, the announcement of virgin conception was a miracle, but FAVOUR to calm FEAR is another miracle here!)**

**(1)-THE GREATNESS OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH-(v.31)-"Behold"**

**People want you to "behold" things of little value, but this "behold" would affect the eternal destiny of every living soul! It is GREAT for many reasons: In our day of invitro fertilization and modern infertility clinics, people pay little attention to virgin conception in scripture...but MARY WASN'T BARREN, NOR EVEN LOOKING for having a child, add to that SHE HAD NEVER HAD SEXUAL RELATIONS---IT WAS THEN THAT Christ was inserted into the womb of a teenage girl 2000 years ago totally without human science or intervention! And the egg was fertilized without human sperm! The power of the Holy Spirit overshadowed her in that little-known village called Nazareth, and a shear MIRACLE TOOK PLACE!!!**

**(2)-THE GUILELESSNESS OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH-(v.27 "virgin" is mentioned twice!)**

**(v.31-"Thou shalt conceive in thy womb")-Have you ever wondered ,"Why is there a need for a VIRGIN BIRTH of a Saviour"? The bible makes it clear in more than one place that SIN is carried on through the human race by BLOOD! We are also told in various passages that LIFE is in the blood. If our Savior's conception is to be without guile, the blood could not be corrupt! In the four millennia that spans the OT, innocent blood of animals was used to purge sin because there was not a single innocent human being on earth to atone for sin!!! (Matt.27:4) says that Jesus had "Innocent BLOOD"! (1 Pt.1:18-19) says that we were redeemed by "the precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and without spot"! (1 John 1:7) says "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin"!**

***Remember, the writer of this gospel is a medical doctor telling us from long ago that the supernatural happened that day!!! How did Jesus have sinless blood? THE ANSWER IS IN THE MIRACLE OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH!* Medical doctor and theologian M.R. DeHahn noted in his studies that "From the ime of conception until the time of the birth of an infant, not one drop of blood ever passes from the mother to the child....because all of the blood which is in that child is produced within the child itself as the result of the introduction of male sperm. The mother provides no blood at all"; (only the nutrients needed for the child's growth which are absorbed from the womb through the placenta to the umbilical cord. )**

**\*BLOOD IS TRANSMITTED BY A FATHER'S CONTRIBUTION-(both metaphysically and spiritually!). That's why we are ALL sinners....because ADAM, who is the father of the human race, sinned! And he passed that trait to all of us through his blood. BUT JESUS' FATHER WAS NOT ANOTHER MAN...IT WAS GOD, THE FATHER HIMSELF WHO WITHOUT SIN PLACED HIS SON IN THE WOMB OF AN UNTOUCHED WOMAN!--(If human sperm was involved Jesus would have been a sinner like the rest of us, but he is born into the world WITHOUT A HUMAN-SINFUL FATHER!)**

**(3)-THE GENDER OF THE VIRGIN BIRTH....(v.31-"Thou shalt concieve and bring forth a SON")**

**(a)...He is GREAT!-(v.32-"He shall be great").....Jesus claimed to be "greater than Jonah, Solomon, & Temple"!**

**Revelation calls Jesus the "King of Kings and Lord of Lords"!**

**(b)...He is GOD!----(v.32-"called the Son of the Highest")**

**(c)...He is GOVERNOR!-(v.27, 32-"the Throne of his father David")**

**The THRONE of his CROWN-(In fulfillment of prophecy to David)**

**The TRIBES of his CROWN---(v.33-"over the house of Jacob forever")**

**The TERM of his CROWN----(v.33-"of His kingdom there shall be no end")**