

## LORD'S DAY 14

Q35. What does it mean that he “was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary”?

**A. That the eternal Son of God, who is<sup>1</sup> and remains true and eternal God,<sup>2</sup> took to himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit,<sup>3</sup> from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, a truly human nature<sup>4</sup> so that he might also become David's true descendant,<sup>5</sup> like his brothers and sisters in every way<sup>6</sup> except for sin.<sup>7</sup>**

1. John 1:1 – “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

John 17:5 – “So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.”

Rom. 1:4 – “and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,”

2. Rom. 9:5 – “to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.”

Gal. 4:4 – “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,”

3. Matt. 1:18, 20 – Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit.” “But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.’”

Luke 1:27, 35 – “to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.” “The angel said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.’” Eph. 1

4. John 1:14 – “And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.”

Gal. 4:4 – “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,”

5. Ps. 132:11 – “The Lord swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back: ‘One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne.’”

Rom. 1:3 – “the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh”

6. Phil. 2:7 – “but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human,”

7. Heb. 4:15 – “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.”

Heb. 7:26 – “For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.”

Q36. How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?

**AA. He is our mediator<sup>1</sup> and, in God's sight, he covers with his innocence and perfect holiness my sinfulness in which I was conceived.<sup>2</sup>**

1. Heb. 2:16–17 – “For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people.”

2. Ps. 32:1 – “Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.”

1 Cor. 1:30 – “In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,”