

The Lord's Day Evening

October 22, 1944

**"I Believe in the Incarnate Christ"
Scripture Lesson – Luke 1:26-38**

The Reverend Dr. Girard Lowe

Introduction

1. Resume
 - a. Tried to show least Sunday night that Christ was Son of God
 1. If believe plain words of Scripture, must believe this
 2. But we know Christ in a body
 - a. Walking, talking, eating, sleeping, becoming tired as a man
 1. How could this be
 - b. He was incarnate. God in a body.
 3. Two things to say
 - a. Cannot be proven by reason or argument; must be accepted by faith
 - b. Cannot be fully understood
 4. Here is a miracle and must be accepted as such or denied
 - a. May deny virgin birth, but still have fact of Christ
 1. Men denied Newton's theory of gravity, but could not deny truth of falling object
 2. May deny virgin birth, but still have fact of miraculous life of Christ
 - b. Still have questions of how Christ came to earth
 - c. Bible explains as being conceived by Holy Ghost, born of a virgin
 1. Some deny this
- I. Why it is denied
1. Deny all miracles
 - a. To deny miracles means denial of whole life and being of Christ
 - b. All have left is teachings
 1. They have little value without the supernatural because they can only be followed by men who are supernaturally empowered
 - c. This miracle should be easiest accepted
 1. Natural birth is something which cannot be understood. Can ask doctor how and then how until finally he will have to answer, "No one knows."
 2. So we accept the marvel of natural birth because it happens all the time and yet it is beyond human understanding.
 3. There is a new trend that a few years ago men would have said could not be possible. Some of our finest stock is produced today without any contact between the male and female. Our fathers could have said impossible, yet it is a common occurrence today.
 - d. If we accord any power at all to God, it is not unbelievable to think He could germinate life without our understanding how He did it.

- e. We must accept it as a miracle
- 2. Deny because of so called silence of Scriptures
 - a. Mark, John, and Paul are said to be silent
 - b. Are silent about accepted facts
 - 1. John does not mention important fact of institution of Lord's Supper
 - 2. Neither he nor Mark record the Lord's Prayer
 - 3. Mark does not have Sermon on Mount
 - c. Reasons for silence
 - 1. Mark wrote to Romans about Christ as a great Servant. Only interested in what He did.
 - 2. John writes of Christ as Son of God and does not primarily think of Him as human; yet he says Word became flesh and dwelt among us
 - d. Paul
 - 1. He does mention – Galatians 4:4 – made of a woman
 - 2. Some scholars believe that he argument that He wasn't born of a virgin had been settled early and that when they referred to Him as Son of God it was an affirmation that He was virgin born and surely Paul keeps affirming this truth.
 - 3. Paul does not mention any of events in life of Christ except institution of Lord's Supper. His crucifixion and resurrection.

II. Why We Believe

- 1. Scriptures declare it
 - a. Luke and Matthew
 - 1. Notice Luke's introduction – 1:1-4
 - 2. Luke is accepted as most historically accurate of all Biblical writers
 - b. Luke and Paul traveled together and surely Paul must have learned much from him and vice versa
 - c. To deny this means deny Scripture
 - 1. If cannot believe this miracle, why any?
 - d. Mr. Alf Stone telling that little girl said second day she was four because Mr. John Frierson said she was four.
- 2. It was not denied until second or third century
 - a. Those who denied that Christ was God at all
 - b. Those who denied that He was human at all
 - 1. Declared He only became Son of God at baptism and God departed from Him before crucifixion
- 3. What means to reject
 - a. Makes Him an illegitimate child
 - 1. All who know anything of Christ or love Him at all will, of course, immediately reject this
 - b. Makes Him son of Mary and Joseph after an ordinary manner
- 4. No question of His uniqueness
 - a. Born in miraculous manner
 - b. Departed in miraculous manner
 - c. Here was no ordinary being

1. He says had unique relationship to Father
 2. He lived as though He did
 3. We believe He did
5. It accounts for His sinlessness
 - a. All men born of natural birth have been sinners
 - b. Even His brothers and sisters born of Joseph and Mary were
 1. How account for difference
 - c. He was God begotten
6. It makes sure the love of God
 - a. Might have sent Him in some other way
 1. First Adam came as full grown man
 - b. But sent Him to pass through all experiences as a man
 1. Birth
 2. Infancy
 3. Youth
 4. Work
 5. Suffer and so forth
 - c. Surely God must have loved us much
7. Makes our thought of salvation sure
 - a. Took God to do it
 1. He even brought Christ into being
 - b. He did it not another
8. Comes great full glory to one when can say I believe in God the Father Almighty, etc.
 - a. I believe God could do it and if He says He did, I believe He did!