



“Conceived of the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary”

14 Reasons Creeds Are Important: (4) Christians need guardrails and _____.

“If you are going to travel cross-country on foot, you need a map...If life is a journey, then the million-word-long Holy Bible is the large-scale map with everything in it, and the hundred-word Apostles’ Creed...is the simplified road map, ignoring much but enabling you to see at a glance the main points of Christian belief.”

(JI Packer, *Affirming the Apostles’ Creed*)

“The Apostles’ Creed functions as a guardrail for our teaching and instruction. Indeed, the creeds protect teachers from stumbling into error by providing a rule to follow and boundaries for healthy theological discussion and development.” (Albert Mohler, *The Apostles’ Creed*)

Why is the virgin birth so hard to believe?

- It is _____ impossible.
- There are some schools of “higher learning” that do not teach the _____ birth.
- It’s not _____ much in the New Testament.
- There are too many “*other*” religious texts that tell the _____.

Why should we believe in the virgin birth?

- The virgin birth is _____ about in the Old Testament and is included in God’s plan of redemption (Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23).
- The virgin birth is _____ in the New Testament (Luke 1, Matthew 1).
- The virgin birth is _____ by the early church (Nicene Creed, Apostles’ Creed).
- The virgin birth _____ to Jesus’ _____ of being truly God and truly man (Isaiah 7:14, 53:10-12, Matthew 1, Luke 1).
- The virgin birth points to the _____ of a child being born _____ sin (Romans 5:18-19, Hebrews 4:15, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22-24).

How should we consider Mary?

- The Apostles’ Creed gives witness to the reality of the _____, not the glory of Jesus’ mother (Matthew 1:25, Mark 3:20, 31-35, Luke 1:47, John 7:3-5).
- Mary and Joseph are great examples of accepting the miraculous by _____ (Matthew 1:20-24, Luke 1:38).
- God chose Mary to _____ him in the fullness of time (Luke 1, Galatians 4:4-5).