

# Your Foundation: It's Very Important

## Selected Passages

If something is valuable, you need to be vigilant to \_\_\_\_\_ . The chipping away at Christmas is actually a \_\_\_\_\_ event. One of the foundational events in Christendom is the doctrine of the \_\_\_\_\_ .

If this happens to be a false doctrine, then we must \_\_\_\_\_ the validity of the Scriptures. The OT and the NT clearly teach He was \_\_\_\_\_ . Secondly, if this doctrine is false, we are still \_\_\_\_\_ in our \_\_\_\_\_. His death, although tragic and sacrificial, would not be \_\_\_\_\_ for our \_\_\_\_\_. Thirdly, if this doctrine is false, Jesus is not \_\_\_\_\_. Denying His \_\_\_\_\_, rejects \_\_\_\_\_ .

### I. An OT Example

Isaiah 7:14 states "The Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and you shall call his name, \_\_\_\_\_ ." That word, Behold, announces an extraordinary, significant birth. The word "virgin" is a Hebrew word definitively referring to an unmarried woman and

means, \_\_\_\_\_. The word, almah, is \_\_\_\_\_ used to refer to even a \_\_\_\_\_ or married woman. This almah would call her son Immanuel, \_\_\_\_\_ with us. Do you think she would have called her child this if Joseph had been the father?

### II. A NT Example

Matthew 1:18-25 contains the Isaiah passage in it. Notice that the text states that Mary had been betrothed to Joseph. Betrothal in the Jewish culture of that day was basically to be married without actually living together. When Joseph heard that Mary was with child, he knew he was not the father. Joseph was a \_\_\_\_\_ man and decided to deal \_\_\_\_\_ with Mary. This tells us that he was indeed a righteous man, devoted to Jehovah. It was while Joseph was pondering these things that he dreamed and Jehovah gave him a vision.

Notice the angel told him not to be afraid to proceed and continued to tell him why. Sometimes we have the \_\_\_\_\_ sometimes we don't.

### III. The Miraculous Birth is Foundational.

The polling industry has its faults, no doubt....

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In 2014, \_\_\_% of Christians stated a belief in the virgin birth. Another poll in 2017 reveals that \_\_\_\_% held to this belief. You'll be glad to know that the percentage of evangelicals who stated a belief in the virgin birth was \_\_\_\_\_%.

The number of "nones" and millennials specifically show drastic declines to almost \_\_\_\_%. No surprise, really.

What is surprising is the number of mainline denominational ministers who think the virgin birth is not that important. Some feel that what happened at the end of his life is more important than how it started.