

The Case for Christmas

Session 2: Beyond the Fake News

Fake news: Reports that seem persuasive at first but turn out to be based on half-truths or falsehoods.

Fake News Claim About Christmas...

Christianity is merely a copycat religion that plagiarized this idea of the incarnation from earlier mythology. It is only as valid a fanciful tale about Zeus or Perseus.

The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him.
-Proverbs 18:17

Examples of people/characters that supposedly claimed to be the result of virgin births.

Mithras
Alexander the Great (Zeus)
Krishna
Buddha
Dionysus
Perseus

There seems to be no clear evidence that pagan sources used the word "virgin" as referring to the mothers of heroes, mythical or historical, who were represented as beings begotten by the gods.

-Gresham Machen, *The Virgin Birth of Christ*

Unlike the examples above, Jesus did not 'begin' at Christmas, He has always existed. Colossians 1:15-20; John 1; John 8:58

Many of these so called "virgin births" come after the birth of Christ, indicating they borrowed from Christianity.

I don't think anyone can make a convincing case that the virgin birth of Jesus - which was reported quite soon after the fact and in documents that are sober in their reporting - was derived from any pagan or other sources.

-Edwin Yamauchi, *In Defense of Jesus*

The reports of Jesus' birth, his teachings, his death, and his resurrection appear in a historical context. They're based on eye-witness accounts and are recorded virtually immediately after his life. They bear the earmarks of authenticity.

-Lee Stroble

2 Peter 1:16; 1 John 1:1

