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What Physical and Biological Changes Occurred in the Body of Mary Beginning with Her Conception Through the Birth of Jesus Christ?

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What physical and biological changes occurred in the body of Mary beginning with her conception through the birth of Jesus Christ?

Here several interconnective questions come to mind.

- Did the Holy Spirit create some kind of “divine sperm” to fertilize Mary’s egg?

“And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God” (Luke 1:35).

In his study Bible, Dr. Henry Morris observes:

1:35—*overshadow thee*—this marvelous work of God can be nothing less than direct creation. Some have suggested such quasi-naturalistic hypotheses as parthenogenesis or artificial insemination, or perhaps that the Holy Spirit somehow fertilized Mary’s naturally produced egg, but such stratagems could only caricature the amazing incarnation—the entrance of the omnipotent, omnipresent, eternal God of creation into finite human flesh. We cannot comprehend the mechanics of such a miracle; we can only believe God’s Word. (*Defender’s Study Bible*, World Publishers, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1995, pp. 1084, 1085)

- Did the Holy Spirit use one of Mary’s eggs?

Some would say He did not, thus reducing Mary to that of a surrogate mother who simply provided her womb to develop the physical body of the Savior. Most Bible students would feel, however, that one of her eggs was indeed super-naturally fertilized. If this be true, then Jesus would have displayed some of her physical traits.

- Did Mary experience the normal physical and emotional changes that are common to all expectant mothers? The answer would appear to be a resounding yes, including morning sickness, significant weight increase, mood swings, etc.
- Was Jesus born in the same manner as all other human beings are born?

At first reading this might appear to be an unnecessary, even frivolous question. However, the Roman Catholic Church would say that both the conception and birth were supernatural, claiming that Jesus’ infant body passed through the birth channel in some magical manner without even disturbing the mother’s hymen!

In fact, it has been suggested that if a medical doctor who knew nothing of Mary’s past could have examined her just prior to her bodily ascension into heaven (another Roman Catholic doctrine) he would have concluded that she had lived her entire life as a virgin. Of course, there is no scriptural support of this whatsoever!