

Merry Christmyths

(Matthew 1:18-25)

- Introduction:
1. Have you ever believed in something, only to learn that what you believed wasn't true?
 2. Who hasn't been fooled by at least some of these myths:
 - a. Your face will freeze that way.
 - b. Don't crack you knuckles; you'll get arthritis.
 - c. Your tongue has different taste sections.
 - d. Swallowing bubble gum takes 7 years to digest.
 - e. Blood is blue in the body but when it contacts oxygen it turns red.
 - f. Water is stored in a camel's hump.
 - g. Ostriches stick their heads in the ground when scared.
 3. All of these have been heard, and accepted as fact, but none of them are true. They're all myths.
 4. Could there be things in the Bible that we believe that are myths?

I. Myths Concerning the Birth of Jesus

- A. If there is any Bible story that nearly everyone is familiar with, it is the story of the birth of Jesus.
- B. Yet, that story it told and embraced with myths mingled throughout it.
- C. Examples:
 1. Gabriel appeared to Joseph to tell him to marry Mary.
 2. The star led the shepherds to the place of Jesus' birth.
 3. The number and timing of the wisemen.
 4. The perpetual virginity of Mary.

II. Myths Concerning Our Salvation

- A. Not all myths are inconsequential.
- B. Consider these myths that are commonly accepted.
 1. You don't have to be baptized (Acts 9:6; 22:16).
 2. The "sinner's prayer" (Acts 2:36-38; Acts 8:9-25).
 3. You can't fall from grace (Galatians 5:4).
 4. Everyone's going to heaven (Matthew 7:13-23).
 5. You have plenty of time (Luke 12:16-21; James 4:14).

- Conclusion:
1. We're susceptible to being fooled by myths.
 2. Let your susceptibility be a wake-up call to you, and make sure that you are not believing a myth about your own salvation.
 3. (Acts 17:11-12).