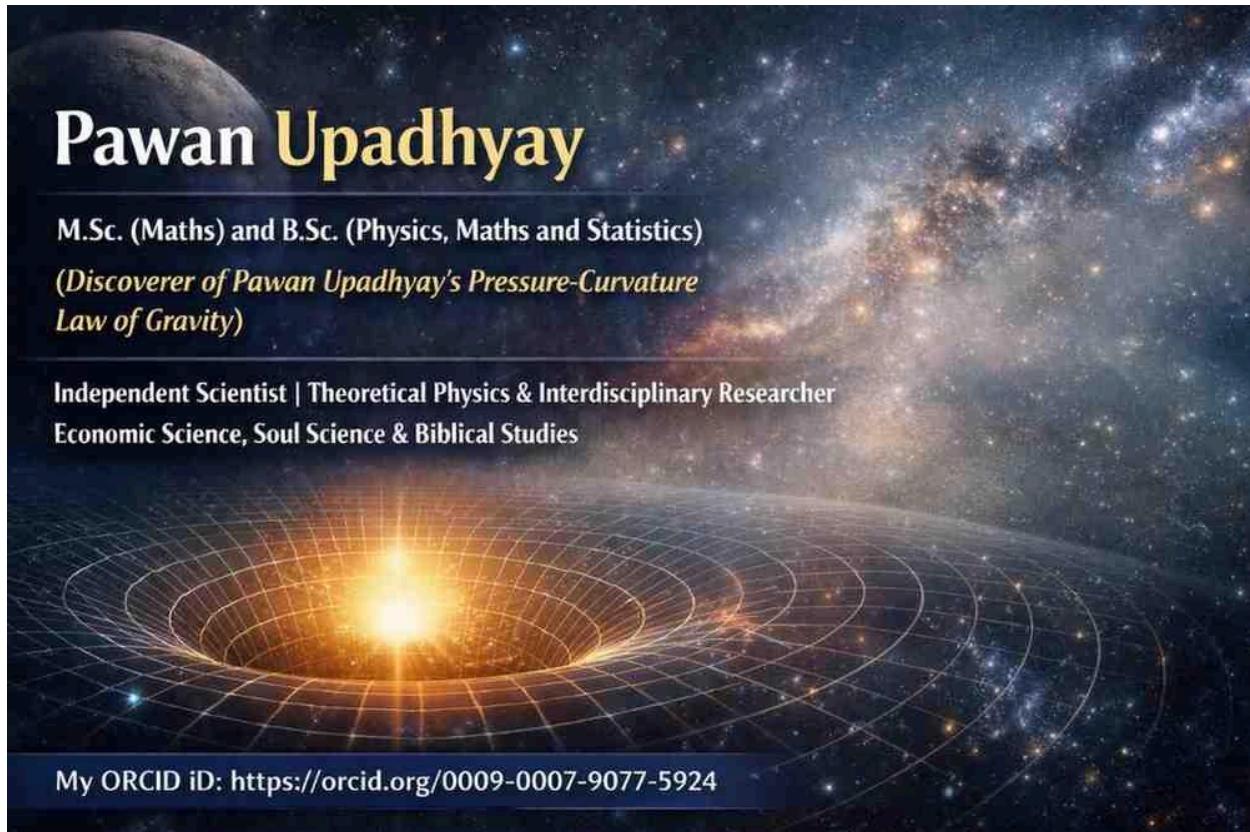


The Living Divine Word: Birth, Spirit, and Authority of the Blessed Lord Jesus Christ

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Abstract

This research paper explores the theological claims concerning the origin, nature, and authority of the Blessed Lord Jesus Christ. Christian Scripture affirms that Jesus Christ was not conceived by human will but by God, being born of the Holy Spirit. As the eternal Living Word (Logos), He existed before time, entered history through divine action, and spoke words that healed, revealed truth, and governed both present and future realities. This study examines biblical foundations for Christ's divine origin, His birth of the Spirit, His identity as the Living Word, His unity with the Spirit of Truth, and the temporal authority of His words.

1. Introduction

The identity of the Blessed Holy Lord Jesus the Nazarene Christ stands at the heart of Christian theology. Scripture presents Him not merely as a prophet or teacher but as the eternal Word of God made flesh. His birth was unique—unlike all other human births—because it originated in God Himself. This paper investigates the biblical and theological meaning of Christ being born of the Spirit, His divine sonship, His life-giving words, and the authority of His speech over time and history.

2. Jesus Christ: Eternally Unbegotten According to Divinity

According to Christian doctrine, Jesus Christ is **eternally begotten, not created**, in His divine nature. He existed before His earthly birth.

- “*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*” (John 1:1)
- “*Before Abraham was, I am.*” (John 8:58)

In this sense, Christ is **unborn according to divinity**, existing eternally with the Father before all ages.

3. God as Father and the Role of the Holy Spirit in Christ’s Birth

Scripture clearly affirms that God is the true Father of Jesus Christ, and that His conception occurred through the Holy Spirit.

- “*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.*” (Luke 1:35)
- “*That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.*” (Matthew 1:20)

The Bible does not describe the Holy Spirit as a biological mother but teaches that **Jesus was born of the Spirit**, not of human flesh or human will.

- “*Born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*” (John 1:13)
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4. Born of the Spirit and Not of the Flesh

Jesus Christ entered human history through a spiritual act of God, not through human generation.

- *"That which is born of the Spirit is spirit."* (John 3:6)

His birth reveals divine initiative and holiness, affirming that salvation originates from God alone.

5. Jesus Christ as the Living Divine Word

Jesus Christ is identified in Scripture as the **Living Word of God**.

- *"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."* (John 1:14)
- *"The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."* (John 6:63)

As the Living Word, Christ's speech carried divine authority, truth, and creative power.

6. Healing Power of the Living Word

The Gospels consistently show that Jesus healed through His words.

- *"He sent his word and healed them."* (Psalm 107:20)
- *"But say the word, and my servant will be healed."* (Matthew 8:8)

Healing flowed not merely from physical action but from the divine authority present in His spoken word.

7. Jesus Christ and the Spirit of Truth

Jesus identified Himself and His mission with the Spirit of Truth.

- *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life."* (John 14:6)
- *"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth."* (John 16:13)

The unity between Christ and the Spirit of Truth reveals that His words are eternally true and divinely guided.

8. Authority of Christ's Words Over Time

Jesus Christ spoke words that transcend time.

- *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away."* (Matthew 24:35)
- *"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."* (Hebrews 13:8)

His words govern the present and the future because they proceed from the eternal God.

9. Prophetic Fulfillment and the Control of Time

Many of Jesus' words were prophetic and fulfilled after they were spoken.

- *"This Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."* (Luke 4:21)
- *"I tell you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe."* (John 13:19)

This demonstrates that Christ's words do not merely predict events but participate in God's sovereign plan over time.

10. Interpretative Explanation of the Gospel of Philip Passage on the Virgin Birth

The passage from the *Gospel of Philip* concerning the Virgin Birth requires careful historical, linguistic, and theological interpretation. This text belongs to a **non-canonical, Valentinian-Gnostic tradition** (3rd century) and does not function in the same doctrinal framework as the canonical Gospels. Its language is symbolic rather than literal.

10.1 “Some say that Mary conceived by the Holy Spirit. They’re wrong...”

This statement does **not deny the Virgin Birth** as taught in canonical Scripture (Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:35). Instead, it reflects a **Gnostic polemic against misunderstanding spiritual language**. The author rejects a crude or material interpretation of spiritual generation. In Gnostic thought, the Holy Spirit is sometimes expressed in **feminine grammatical form**, leading to confusion. The text argues that divine generation is **not biological**.

10.2 “When did a woman ever conceive by a woman?”

This rhetorical question emphasizes that **divine begetting transcends human sexual categories**. The text critiques literalism, not the doctrine of divine origin. It insists that Christ's origin is **from God above**, not from any earthly or material process.

10.3 “Mary is the virgin whom no power defiled”

Here, **power** refers to **cosmic or worldly forces** (a common Gnostic term). The statement affirms Mary's **purity and holiness**, aligning indirectly with the Christian understanding of her virginal integrity. The emphasis, however, is spiritual purity rather than historical narrative.

10.4 “The powers defiled themselves”

This reflects a Gnostic worldview in which **fallen powers corrupt themselves through material desire**, whereas divine reality remains pure. The phrase contrasts **divine holiness** with **worldly corruption**.

10.5 “The Lord wouldn't have said ‘my Father who is in heaven’ unless he had another father”

This is a **symbolic theological argument**, not a historical claim of two fathers. In Gnostic interpretation:

- “Father in heaven” refers to the **true divine Father**
- Any other ‘father’ symbolizes the **lower, earthly realm**

Canonical Christianity, however, clearly affirms **one true Father** of Jesus Christ (John 5:18; John 17:1), while acknowledging Joseph only as a legal guardian, not a biological father.

10.6 Relationship to Orthodox Christian Doctrine

From a doctrinal perspective:

- The *Gospel of Philip* is **not authoritative** for Christian dogma
- Its value lies in understanding **early heterodox interpretations**
- Canonical Scripture clearly teaches:
 - Jesus is **conceived by the Holy Spirit** (Luke 1:35)
 - God is His **only true Father**
 - Christ is the **eternal Living Word**, not produced by material forces

Thus, when read correctly, the Gospel of Philip does **not refute** the Virgin Birth but reflects a **symbolic, non-canonical theological framework** distinct from apostolic Christianity.

11. Doctrinal Clarification on the Eternal Sonship of Jesus Christ

Lord Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, begotten of the Father before all ages.

According to His divinity, He has no beginning, no mother, and no creation.

According to His humanity, He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

God the Father is His true Father; the Holy Spirit is not His mother but the divine agent of incarnation.

Jesus Christ is God from God, eternally one with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

This formulation faithfully reflects apostolic Christianity and the Nicene Creed, preserving:

- The eternal generation of the Son
 - The unity of the Holy Trinity
 - The distinction between divinity and humanity
 - Biblical and doctrinal precision
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12. Conclusion

The Blessed Holy Lord Jesus Christ is eternally divine, born of the Spirit and revealed as the Living Word of God. While non-canonical texts like the *Gospel of Philip* use symbolic and sometimes controversial language, the canonical witness of Scripture remains clear: Christ's origin is divine, His birth is holy, and His words carry eternal authority over truth and time. Proper interpretation preserves doctrinal clarity while allowing historical understanding of early Christian diversity.

Keywords

Gospel of Philip, Virgin Birth, Holy Spirit, Mary, Gnostic texts, Living Word, Christology

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