

A literary-structural comparison of the birth announcements found in Genesis 17 and Matthew 1

Genesis To Abraham	Matthew To Joseph
17.1a Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him,	1.20a But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying,
1b “I am God Almighty; Walk before Me, and be blameless.”	20b “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.
17.19a But God said, “No, but Sarah your wife will bear you a son,”	1.21a “She [<i>Mary, your wife</i>] will bear a Son;”
19b “and you shall call his name Isaac;”	21b “and you shall call His name Jesus;”
19c “and I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him.”	21c “for He will save His people from their sins.”
17.23a Then Abraham took Ishmael	1.24a, c And Joseph awoke from his sleep ... and took Mary as his wife,
23c and circumcised the flesh of their foreskin in the very same day, as God had said to him.	24b and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him,