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Turabian Citations from the Theological Journal Library

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Modern and Ancient Controversies over the Virgin Birth of Jesus -- By: James P. Sweeney

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Journal: [Bibliotheca Sacra](#)

Volume: [BSAC 160:638 \(Apr 2003\)](#)

Article: Modern and Ancient Controversies over the **Virgin** Birth of Jesus

Author: [James P. Sweeney](#)

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Modern and Ancient Controversies over the **Virgin** Birth of Jesus

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Bibliography format

Sweeney, James P. "Modern and Ancient Controversies over the Virgin Birth of Jesus." *Bibliotheca Sacra* 160, no. 638 (April 2003): 142–58.

(Body of the paper double-spaced with first lines indented. Bibliography items are single spaced with blank lines between and use the "hanging indent" command. Both Times New Roman 12 pt.)

Footnote format

¹ James P. Sweeney, "Modern and Ancient Controversies over the Virgin Birth of Jesus," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 160, no. 638 (April 2003): 148.

(The first line of footnotes are indented. Use the "insert footnote" command in Word. Footnotes are 10 point Times New Roman type. They are also single spaced with a blank line between them.)

The Elements of the Citation

Author: Sweeney, James P. (Inverted Last Name, First Name for the bibliography, but not for the footnote. Ends with a period in the bibliography, a comma in the footnote.)

Article Title (in quotation marks): “Modern and Ancient Controversies over the Virgin Birth of Jesus.” (All “important words” are capitalized as well as the first word after a comma or dash and any proper nouns or acronyms. Ends with a period in the bibliography, a comma in the footnote.)

Journal Title (in italics): *Bibliotheca Sacra*

Volume and Issue Number: 160, no. 638 (Some journals don’t use issue numbers.)

Date (month/season designator and year in parenthesis, no comma): (April 2003)

Page Numbers: 142-58. (Bibliography includes all inclusive pages. Here, the article went from 142-158, but Turabian doesn’t include the number “1” before “58.” If you consistently use one style or the other, either 142-158 or 142-58, you likely won’t be marked down.)

(For the footnote, only include the page(s) you cite or paraphrase.) In this case: 148.

Determining the page numbers

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Origen continued with his argument, seeking to anticipate and answer Jewish objections to the virgin birth, while at the same time continuing his refutation of Celsus. The important thing to note here, however, is that Origen responded to several of the same objections that Justin faced in his dialogue with Trypho. First, Origen refuted charges put forth by Celsus, ostensibly originating in a dialogue between Jesus and a Jewish contemporary. One of the many issues of the debate was the Gospel writers’ claim of a virgin birth. Ironically this demonstrated that Celsus was aware that to refute Christian claims he had to issue alternative explanations of

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the data contained in the Gospels. These alternative explanations, however, were little more than a tendentious “deconstruction” of the Gospel narratives. The following chart, based on Against Celsus 1.28, helps demonstrate Celsus’ “explanations.”



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The reason the word “Virgin” is highlighted is that this was from a search for the “Virgin Mary.” Search terms you used are highlighted in the article.