

the virgin birth. It says he was betrothed, not married. It says  
the  
the virgin Mary. In a few ancient Greek MSS instead of the ~~RSV~~  
normal text that Joseph the husband of Mary of whom Jesus was born  
-- we have Joseph to whom was betrothed the virgin Mary the mother  
of Jesus who is called Christ. We have that in maybe 5 or 6 ancient  
Greek MSS as if somebody in making that MS was afraid that the state-  
ment that he was betrothed -- that he was the husband of Mary of  
whom ~~RSV~~ Jesus was born would think someone did not -- ~~RSV~~ thought  
that denied the virgin birth which is so clearly stated just before  
it and stated in full in the RSV, and therefore inserted the words  
instead of Mary betrothed and the virgin Mary. Somebody inserted  
those words ~~RSV~~ at a very early time and you find them in maybe half  
a dozen Greek MSS. Then those Greek MSS are translated into Syriac  
with that double extra emphasis on the virgin Mary and there is  
one -- somebody told me there were two -- but as far as I know there  
is only one. But I know there is not more than two Syriac MSS that  
have a difference of one letter that instead of saying "bear" says  
"begat", a difference of one letter. And on the basis of that they  
put a footnote that would make it look like other ancient authorities  
denied the virgin birth.

Well, I don't think later editions of the RSV have this in it  
because it's so clearly false, but it shows the bias of the trans-  
lators. If anybody talks about translation without bias, it's utter  
nonsense. It is wrong to have such a bias that you ~~RSV~~ put a word that  
the original can't mean, that you put an expression that the  
original can't mean - that is wrong. But to select among the  
possibilities how you are going to put it in your language, you have