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Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that he heard the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) say: "No child is born but the devil touches him when he is born, whereupon he starts crying loudly because of having been touched by the devil, except for Maryam and her son." Abu Hurayrah then read: {And I seek refuge with You (Allah) for her and her offspring from Satan, the outcast.} [Sūrat Āl-'Imrān: 36]

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

Children are poked in their sides by the devil when they are born, so they scream immediately after birth. Only Maryam and 'Īsa (peace be upon both of them) did not experience that. Allah protected them at birth, for Maryam's mother prayed: {And I seek refuge with You (Allah) for her and her offspring from Satan, the outcast} [Sūrat Āl-'Imrān: 36]. Allah answered her supplication and protected Maryam and her son 'Īsa from the devil's poke. Maryam had no children other than 'Īsa. The devil's poke is a real thing. It does not mean that the devil seeks to lead humans astray, as some Mu'tazilites said. It is obligatory to believe in this Hadīth in its literal sense, as it is the chosen opinion of Ahl As-Sunnah wa al-Jamā'ah.

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