

The “REAL” Christmas Story

1

Shrouded in the mysteries of eternity past. Before there was time or space or any other part of Creation, God Was!

God existed in three persons – Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. They were self-sufficient and needed nothing. They were perfectly content in their own company.

God made a decision to share their glory, so they decided to make creatures.

2

God created all sorts of creatures in the spiritual realm. The Bible talks of angels and archangels, Cherubim and Seraphim. Some have six wings, some have faces of men while others have faces of ox, lions, eagles. Some have all four faces. These are only the ones we know about, God may have created many more.

3

After God created the Angels, He decided to create another creature – Man. Through man was to be created a little lower than the angels, he was to be created unique and different. God decided to create man in His Own Image.

God knows all things in all time. We call this God's omniscience and He knows the end from the very beginning. God knew if He were to embark on this work of Creation, there would be a cost...

4

In order for man to exist, God had to prepare a place. God went all out, he created the Universe.

God Created for Five days creating light and bringing order to His creation. He made air, land, and food for man. On the Sixth day of Creation, He created man and placed him in a special Garden where all his needs were met.

God looked at all He had done and declared that it was perfect and could not be improved upon. Then God rested from Creation and set aside a special day where He and man could meet and spend time together.

5

Every intelligent being that God created was put to a test. God did not want creatures to worship, love and be loved because they were programmed to do so. God experienced a deep and fulfilling love within the Godhead. He wanted His creatures to be able to experience the same. Therefore, they had to be allowed to make a choice. Would they make a choice to love and obey Him (after all He wants the best for His Creation) or would they walk away.

Lucifer was the Cherub that appears to have been the worship leader and over the other angels. He chose to rebel. He led a rebellion against God and He and 1/3 of the angels were cast out of God's presence.

Satan in the form of a serpent tempted Adam and Eve to disobey God and they too were put out of God's Garden.

6

When man sinned, man separated himself from the very essence of life, and disease, aging, and death was unleashed upon Adam and his descendants.

God had known that man would rebel, but He had a plan. He cursed man with death. Seems strange as He had not done this with the angels who had rebelled. In 1 Peter we know that Jesus was to be the sacrifice, the lamb that was appointed to die from before the foundation of the world.

Man was cursed with death, so he would come to an end of himself. This provided an opportunity for God to step into our death and do something amazing.

7

When God dealt with Adam and Eve's rebellion, He gave them a message of hope.

He taught them to sacrifice. This vividly demonstrated that the wages of sin is death, but that there could be a substitute. God sacrificed the first animal(s) and clothed Adam and Eve in their skin.

It was a reminder that they were now clothed in death.

God gave them a message that there would be a child (the Messiah) who would come by way of a woman. He would deal with the serpent, but He would be wounded in the process.

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her Seed;
He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.

8

Through time God continued to work with people, but Satan was also at work. Satan turned the hearts of people against God to the point that only Noah and his family followed God. God sent judgment upon the world, but He provided a way of deliverance. They had to believe God and enter the ark. Though the door was open to all, only Noah and his family entered.

There is future judgment coming, and only those who believe God and enter into Messiah will be delivered!

9

Man's rebellion continued after the flood. To preserve a lineage for Messiah to enter, God separated out Abraham and made Him into the Jewish Nation. God made a promise that all the world would be blessed by His seed – The Messiah!

10

God continued to give revelation of the coming Messiah who would redeem mankind.

God called Moses to lead the people out of the Bondage of Egypt (sin) and lead them to the Land of Promise (God's presence). Through Moses came the Law, the Tabernacle, and centralized worship with a priesthood. All of these prepared Israel for the coming of Messiah.

The Law showed the Need for a Redeemer as no one could keep the Law.

The Tabernacle showed the holiness of God and that there was just one way to approach Him.

The Messiah would be the ultimate High Priest, who would offer Himself as the final sacrifice for man's sin!

11

God sent a series of prophets who had a two-fold purpose.

1. To warn the people about sin and its consequences so they would turn back and seek God.
2. To get the people to look forward to the coming of Messiah and the blessing He would bring.

They progressively revealed many details of Messiah's coming.

- They gave a general picture of when Messiah would come.
 - Where He would be born – Bethlehem.
 - His healing and prophetic ministry
 - His rejection and death (Isa 53)

12

God rose up many nations to serve His purpose with regard to Messiah.

Babylon was used to purify Israel from Idolatry.

The Greek empire conquered and controlled the Western world and produced a language expressive enough to express the Gospel.

The Roman empire also conquered and controlled the Western world and produced a series of roads for the spreading of the Gospel.

God used Rome as the instrument to bring Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem so prophecy would be fulfilled.

Though it was our sin that nailed Messiah to the cross, Rome was the instrument that carried out His execution. Little did they realize they were the instrument by which the whole world would be saved.

13

In the fullness of time, that is at the exact appointed time that God had planned, Messiah stepped into time and human history. That baby born to the Virgin Mary was God Himself – our Emmanuel!

Jesus stepped into time as the perfect God-man. 100% God and 100% man. He was able to die as our substitute since He had identified Himself as man. Jesus often addressed Himself as the Son of Man to underscore His identification with mankind.

As God, He was worthy to pay the price for the sins of all mankind.

Jesus crushed the head of the serpent, but He was wounded as He died on the cross. The curse was broken! Our debt was paid for in full, but Jesus will never force Himself on anyone. The door is open for any who want to enter into a relationship with Him.

14

What about you?

What does Christmas mean to You?

How do you relate to the child born to Mary?

Is He your Emmanuel? Your God? Your
Savior?

If not let us talk with your today and
share the Good News of how Jesus
came to save us from our sin!

Merry Christmas!