

THE INCARNATION – 3

DECEMBER 17, 2023

1 TIM. 3:16 A mystery is something that's difficult to understand or explain. Christmas celebrates the great mystery of the Incarnation. No human mind can understand or explain it. We believe it by faith. God became a man to do what man couldn't do for himself.

DEUT. 30:15,19 We are in a spiritual warfare between good and evil. God desires good for us, Satan desires evil for us. God instructs us to choose good, life, and blessing. The Incarnation reveals to what length God would go to make it possible for us to choose life.

Messianic Prophecies Fulfilled

Seed of a woman (**GEN. 3:15, GAL. 4:4**); descendant of Abraham (**GEN. 12:3, MT. 1:1**); of Isaac (**GEN. 17:19, LK. 3:34**); of Jacob (**NUM. 24:17, MT. 1:2**); Tribe of Judah (**GEN. 49:10, LK. 3:33**); Heir to David's throne (**IS. 9:7, LK. 1:32-33**); born in Bethlehem (**MICAH 5:2, LK. 2:4-7**); of a virgin (**IS. 7:14, LK. 1:26-31**); Birth would trigger a slaughter of male children (**JER. 3:15, MT. 2:16-18**); He would come out of Egypt (**HOS. 11:1, MT. 2:14-15**).

- Chances of fulfilling 8 prophecies are 1 in 10^{17}
- Chances of fulfilling 48 prophecies are 1 in 10^{157}
- Micah, Bethlehem, 700 years; David, crucifixion, 1,000 yrs.

The Attack – GEN. 4:1-8

Satan set out to destroy the woman's seed for two reasons: to remove the knowledge of God from the earth, and to destroy the righteous line. Cain and Abel represent two lines (good and evil). By destroying the good line, he could prevent the Messiah from entering humanity. Since God accepted Abel's sacrifice, Satan inspired Cain to kill Abel.

A Replacement – GEN. 4:25-26

Seth replaces Abel and a new righteous line begins. Satan is furious and wreaks havoc that causes the flood (**GEN. 6:5-8**). The flood destroyed the unrighteous line and preserved the righteous line in Noah.

God's Wisdom – 1 COR. 2:6-8

Had Satan known God's wisdom, he wouldn't have inspired the Cross. **PS. 89:3-4** God kept Satan's focus on the royal line of David. Satan attacked the royal line and proclaimed victory when he heard **JER. 22:30**. After the curse, Satan left for Hawaii.

Ancestry and Decoy

MT. 1:1-2, 16-17 – Matthew traces Jesus' ancestry from Joseph, Solomon, David, to Abraham. This is the royal line of kings.

LUKE. 3:23,31 - Luke traces Jesus' ancestry from Mary, Nathan, David, Abraham, to Adam. Joseph was Heli's son-in-law, not son.

1 CHRON. 17:11-14 A son of David was to reign forever on David's throne. When the curse was pronounced because of Coniah's atrocities, Satan believed he won. He failed to realize Jesus only had one human parent, Mary, who was of David's bloodline through Nathan. Therefore, He's qualified to sit on David's throne also (**LK 1:30-33**).

LUKE 2:7-14 When Satan heard the announcement, he choked on his stuffed, hot banana peppers, got the first flight to Israel, and called an executive meeting. **JER. 31:15, MT. 2:16-18** These verses represent the outcome of that meeting. He unleashes an attack on every male child two years and under to kill the woman's seed.

Out of Egypt – HOS. 11:1, MT. 2:14-15

Jesus is taken to Egypt until it's safe to return to Nazareth. Hosea stated this over 700 years before it happened. Thank God for godly parents who obey His voice.

Conclusion: To be continued.