REVIVAL NEWS

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Declaring the whole counsel of God Bulletin – Article 13 – December 19, 2024

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

A Message of Hope!

The Promise

Close to 6000 years ago God made a promise that there would be a Man born to a woman, and this particular Man would crush the authority of the Devil. God said to the serpent, the devil, "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" Genesis 3:15. 2000 years ago, "when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman..." Galatians 4:4. "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil" 1 John 3:8. He came to bruise the head of the devil – that is, to destroy the authority and works of the devil! He was born of a woman and had no earthly biological father. Jesus is the Seed of the woman who has destroyed the works of the devil!

The Seed

4000 years ago God spoke to a man named Abraham and said, "In your seed [descendant] all the nations of the earth shall be blessed" Genesis 22:18. Paul wrote that this was the gospel being preached to Abraham (Galatians 3:8). Then apostle Paul wrote, "Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ" Galatians 3:16. The Seed promised to Abraham was Christ! All the nations of the earth are blessed through Christ Jesus!

SHILOH

3900 years ago God spoke through a man named Jacob who prophetically spoke over his son Judah saying, "The sceptre [symbol of kingship] shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until SHILOH comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people." Genesis 49:10

"SHILOH" means "Him whose right it is to rule as King". A king would arise from Judah and all peoples would become obedient to Him!

It was then written through apostle Paul that "Through Him [Christ] we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name" Romans 1:5. SHILOH has come and by grace and apostleship the nations are learning His Word and becoming obedient to Him, the King, Christ Jesus, Him whose right it is to rule!

The Star

3500 years ago, God spoke through an unusual prophet named Balaam who was hired by King Balak of Moab to speak a curse over God's people (Numbers 22:6). But Balaam was arrested by the Angel of God on the way and then spoke a prophecy declaring, "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; a Star shall come out of Jacob; a Sceptre [King] shall rise out of Israel..." Numbers 24:17. When Balaam looked out over God's people, He saw Someone! I see Him! He described this Person as a Star shall come out of Jacob; a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel! Balaam saw a King. The Star and Sceptre coming from the people of Israel would be a great King!

Around the time of the birth of Jesus some wise men, Magi, noticed the appearance of a Star. They came to Jerusalem and said, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His Star in the East and have come to worship Him" Matthew 2:2. They knew the appearance of the star meant that a great King of the Jews had been born! The Star came from Jacob! Balaam saw Him prophetically and the Magi came to see the fulfilment! They followed that star to Bethlehem and "when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother and fell down and worshiped Him" Matthew 2:11. The King had come. The Star had come. Wise men had eyes to see it and worshiped Him! Jesus is the "Bright and Morning Star" Revelation 22:16.

Son of David, Son of God

3000 years ago, a King named David arose from the tribe of Judah and God made a promise to him saying, "When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your descendant after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish His kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the Throne of His kingdom forever. I will be His Father and He shall be My Son" 2 Samuel 7:12-14a.

One would come from David's family who would be a king forever and would be God's Son!

When the angel Gabriel came to Mary to announce to her that she would conceive a Son in her virginity, He said to her about this Son, "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David" Luke 1:32. A Son of David would also be the Son of God, the

Son of the Highest! He would be King; the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David! What was promised was fulfilled, and the King, the Son of God, was conceived in the womb of Mary!

The Eternal One arrives in Bethlehem

2700 years ago, God spoke again through a prophet named Micah saying, "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting [lit. from the days of eternity]" Micah 5:2.

This Ruler would be born in Bethlehem but would come from Eternity!

When the wise men came looking for the King of the Jews, the King named Herod in Judea inquired of the Scribes and the chief priests "where the Christ was to be born" Matthew 2:4. They replied from Micah5:2 that He would be born in Bethlehem. The Christ, Jesus, was born in Bethlehem, but He existed before then. He was from the days of eternity! The Eternal One, God, came in the flesh as a man, born of a woman, in the town of Bethlehem, according to the Scriptures!

God With Us

2700 years ago, God also spoke through a prophet named Isaiah saying, "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel" Isaiah 7:14. God also spoke through Isaiah declaring, "Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the Government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

This Child would be conceived and born of a virgin! He would be the MIGHTY GOD with us, [Immanuel], God appearing in the flesh!

When Mary's betrothed husband, Joseph, was considering ending his betrothal and marriage with Mary due to her pregnancy, an angel spoke to Joseph in a dream comforting him, "do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit...So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." Matthew 1:20, 22-23. Matthew gives us the translation of the name Immanuel. It means God With Us! Joseph and Mary were aware that this Child they were to bring up was actually God With Us! God has come to be with us! Jesus is God With Us! It was spoken of, and we are living in the days of fulfillment! The Mighty God has come!

The Branch

2600 years ago, God spoke through another prophet named Jeremiah and said, "Behold the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of Righteousness; A king shall reign and prosper...Now this is the name by which He will be called: Yahweh our Righteousness" Jeremiah 23:5-6.

<u>This King from the lineage of David would be Yahweh – which means</u> the eternal God, the "I AM", who would make us righteous!

The apostle John heard Jesus say, "I Am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star" Revelation 22:16. Jesus was before David and came in the lineage of David according to the flesh! He is the Root and Offspring of David! He is the Eternal One, the I AM (John 8:58). It is also written by apostle Paul that "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself...that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" 2 Corinthians 5:19,21. The Eternal God was in Christ! He became our righteousness. We are righteous in Him! He was "born of the Seed of David according to the flesh, and declared the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of Holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" Romans 1:3-4. The word spoken by Jeremiah has come to pass!

The Word became flesh

2000 years ago, the apostle John declared that "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth" John 1:14. The Word that had been spoken for generations from the beginning, through many and various prophets, became flesh and dwelt among us! Jesus the Messiah is the fulfilment of the law and prophets! The "mystery, which from the beginning of ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ" (Ephesians 3:9) has been and is being revealed! We are in the days of the restoration of all things (Acts 3:21), the time when all that the prophets spoke about has been and is being established – in Christ!

The Word that God had spoken for generations by these prophets became a reality 2000 years ago! The King arrived!

JESUS

The apostle Paul wrote, "Without controversy great is the mystery of Godliness; God was manifested in the flesh..." 1 Timothy 3:16. The angel told Joseph, "She (Mary) will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins" Matthew 1:21. The name JESUS means in Hebrew "Yahweh is Salvation" or "Yahweh saves". Jesus is the Eternal One, the I AM saving us! He is God in the flesh coming to save us

from our sins! "He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him there is no sin" 1 John 3:5.

The name JESUS means He is "Yahweh Saving us". JESUS, the Son of God is God in the flesh, coming to deliver us from our sins (Matthew 1:21).

When JESUS was born, Heaven was excited!

There were shepherds nearby the birth of Jesus who had an amazing heavenly encounter: "And behold an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them...Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid... For there is born to you this day in the City of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord...And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and goodwill toward men!" Luke 2:9-13. Jesus is the Saviour, the Christ and the Lord, God!

"In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily" Colossians 2:9. Christ Jesus is the embodiment of all that is God! The I AM in the flesh! He came. He arrived. He was placed in a humble manger. The King of the Universe and the Creator of all things (Colossians 1:16) entered His creation! "He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him" John 1:10-11.

Will you receive the King, the Messiah, the Son of the Living God? Do you recognize who He is. There is great promise and reward to those who receive Him, "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name, who were born...of God" John 1:12-13. To those who receive Him you are now privileged to become children of God, being born of God!

Receive the King, JESUS, today!

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