

Events Culminating in the Birth of Christ

Isaiah 9: 6-7

December 17, 2023

**Our Journey Starts All the Way Back in
Genesis 3: 15**

**This is the
first
indication of a
Redeemer
coming to
save mankind**

*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

NKJV

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Jesus believed in a literal Adam and Eve and a garden

What does all this mean?

“I will put enmity” = hostility and hatred

“Between you (Satan) ***“and the woman”*** (Israel)

“Between your seed” (Satan followers, earth dwellers)

“and her seed” (Jesus and His followers)

Thus, the worldwide hatred of Jews & Christians

“He” (Messiah) **“shall bruise your head”** (Satan;
a death blow to Satan)

“And you (Satan) **shall bruise His heel”** (cause
Jesus to suffer)

This is called the “Proto-Evangelium” – the first
Gospel

Genesis 3:15 – The “Proto-evangelium”

- The meaning of the word –
 - Proto – first
 - Evangelium – gospel
- The nature of the proto-evangelium –
 1. God is the initiator of the enmity between the two seeds.
 2. The reference appears to speak of Christ’s victory over Satan at the cross.
 - At the cross, Satan would cause Christ to suffer (“bruise his heel”).
 - Satan would be dealt a death blow (“crush his head”).

**Jesus entered
our space-time
continuum for
us**

**John 3: 16-17
*was for us!***

Our culture has changed what real love is to a self-centered, feeling love – a “*let me do what I want*” love

Agape love is a sacrificial, benevolent love; it is an act of the will love, an unconditional love

Agape love is not shown by giving a person what they want, but what they need

God does not agape us and say keep living in sin; agape says no, and does what is best for us

How does our world view love?

Agree with me, support my sin habit

If you loved me, you would embrace my life choices

What do the world dwellers think of you?

*You are a hater, a bigot, ignorant,
unloving, DANGEROUS, and filled
with hate speech*

**It is not loving, *and I might say hate speech*, if we
don't tell people the truth!**

The Virgin Birth was Prophesied
Isaiah 7: 14

It is amazing to me that so many do not believe in the Virgin Birth!

How do we respond to this?

It's a MIRACLE!

A one off in the history of the world!

There had to be a Virgin Birth; when sin entered the world, death was passed to all men because all have sinned – **Romans 5: 12**

Only a sinless sacrifice, *One like Adam*, could save the world

There are no humans that are sinless

So, from the Godhead, Jesus came to earth as the God/Man

Jesus sacrificed Himself in our place to save us from our sin curse

There had to be a Virgin Birth – *there was no other way!!*

**The Giving God Gave His Only Son -
*an Indescribable Gift!***

Isaiah 9: 6-9

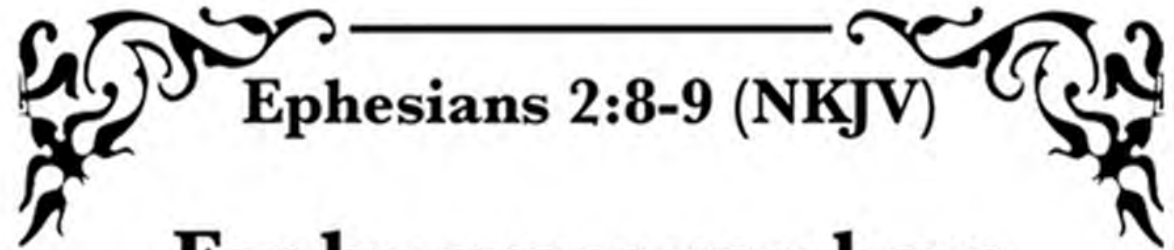
*Thanks be to God
for His indescribable
Gift!*



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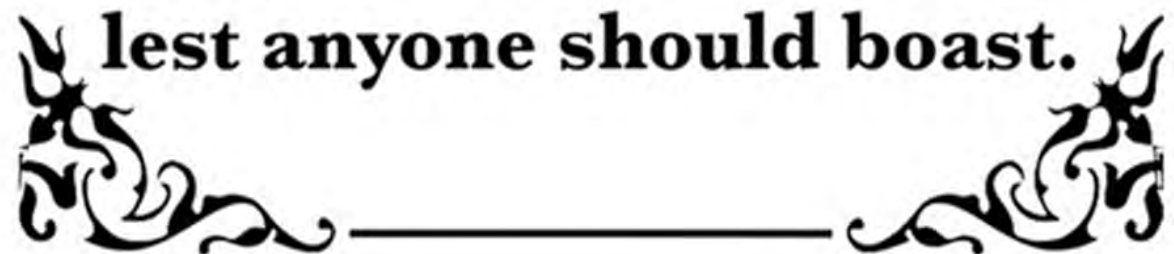
2 CORINTHIANS 9:15

- The Child born in the manger was JESUS
- The indescribable gift was for us
- *Salvation is the gift!*



Ephesians 2:8-9 (NKJV)

**For by grace you have
been saved through faith,
and that not of yourselves;
it is the gift of God,
not of works,**



lest anyone should boast.

Jesus' government is a government of peace

What does it mean His government will not end?

— THE STATUE IN NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM —

"This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay" Daniel 2:32-33, NKJV

HEAD OF GOLD Daniel 2:37-38	Babylon 626-539 BC
CHEST & ARMS OF SILVER Daniel 2:39a	Medo-Persia 539-331 BC
BELLY & THIGHS OF BRONZE Daniel 2:39b	Greece 331-168 BC
LEGS OF IRON Daniel 2:40	Rome 168 BC - AD 476
FEET OF IRON & CLAY Daniel 2:41-44	Modern Europe AD 476 - present day

Return of Jesus
STONE THAT BREAKS THE STATUE INTO PIECES
Daniel 2:44-45

ASK AN ADVENTIST

All world kingdoms are ruled by Satan!

**This Baby, born in a manger, is
*THE LORD GOD ALMIGHTY!!***

**The Announcement will be made to
Zachariah
Luke 1: 11-17**

At the perfect time, the angel, Gabriel, told Zachariah that Elizabeth would have a son

Another miracle, they were too old for kids!

“You shall call his name John”

(John means “grace of God”)

The Announcement was given to Mary
Luke 1: 26-38

Gabriel reveals God's plan to Mary, a 14–17 year old virgin

Mary must have thought:

“Why me?” “Why now?”

“How will anyone believe this?”

Gabriel replies, *“For with God nothing will be impossible”* – Luke 1: 37

Mary's response is precious:

“Let it be to me according to your word.”

The Announcement to Joseph
Matthew 1: 18-25

At the perfect time, Joseph is let in on the plan

Joseph wanted to put Mary away secretly, to ***not*** make her a public example – **Matthew 1: 19**

The fullness of time had indeed come –

Galatians 4: 4-5

CLOSING THOUGHTS:

What a story!

What a God!!

WHAT A SAVIOR!!!

The life of Jesus is full of drama and mystery

**This One solitary life impacted the whole world
like none other!!**

Thy Kingdom come

Thy will be done

WILL be fulfilled, and
might I say, SOON!

**We cannot deny how our world is changing in
preparation for the return of our KING!!**

*This Christmas season, may we have a
spirit of MARANATHA – Even so come
Lord Jesus!*

*UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN
UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN*

Isaiah 9:6-7 (NKJV)

⁶ For 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, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!