

**2024 Christmas Special**

**December 15, 2024**

**Series: The Incarnation of the Son of God**

**Message: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus; Selected Verses from Isaiah, Matthew, and Luke.**

Let's take a brief look at what the Bible has to say about the incarnation of Jesus, the Son of God.

**I) The Incarnation of the Son of God Predicted**

A) Luke 24:13-35

- 1) Luke 24:13-24: The Disciples inadequate testimony of the events surrounding the person and death of Christ.
- 2) Luke 24:25-27: The Sure word of the testimony of the Scripture and its predictions concerning the coming of Christ and His works.
  - (a) Genesis 12:1-3: the Promise to Abraham that extended to all nations
  - (b) Genesis 15:4: The promise to Abraham of an heir who will be the son of promise.
  - (c) Genesis 21:1-7: The promise to Abraham of the son of promise fulfilled in the birth of Isaac.
  - (d) Genesis 22:1-14: The promise to Abraham that God would provide a suitable substitutionary Lamb of sacrifice.
    - (i) John 1:29: Jesus is the Lamb of God, the sacrifice for the sin of the world.
  - (e) The Psalms are filled with numerous predictions of the saving work and authority of the Christ.
    - (i) Psalm 2; 16; 22; etc.
  - (f) Isaiah 42:1-4: a description of the type of rule and reign of the Christ.
  - (g) Isaiah 52:13- 53:12: A description of the suffering servant, who is the Christ.
    - (i) The suffering One: 52:13-15
    - (ii) The Despised One: 53:1-3 (despised and rejected)
    - (iii) The Sin Bearing One: 53: 4-10 (God crushed Him, laying the sins of His people upon Him.)
    - (iv) The Risen One: 53:11 (Risen from the dead for the justification of all who believe (Romans 4:25))
    - (v) The Faithful One: 53:12-13 (faithful as the successful sin-bearing Christ, whose death was an intercessory death on behalf of sinners. (2 Corinthians 5:21))
- 3) Luke 24:28-32: The Sure Word of Scripture grounded their faith, and their eyes were supernaturally opened to see Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. This led to their faithful witness to the reality that Christ has come!

**II) The Incarnation of the Son of God Promised**

- A) Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son and will call Him Immanuel."
  - 1) Matthew 1:23: The angel spoke these exact words to Joseph: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel—which means, 'God with us.'"
- B) Isaiah 9:6-7: The promised son to be born will have all authority, being seated on David's throne just as God had promised David in 2 Samuel 7:11b-14a: This heir of David will be seated, reigning on David's throne as a forever king, sitting on a forever throne, ruling over a forever kingdom!
- C) Luke 1:26-35: Gabriel promises that the Son of God will be born to Mary.
  - 1) Mary was "highly favored."
  - 2) Mary "found favor with God."
  - 3) Mary, the virgin, was told by Gabriel, "You will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus (which means, He shall save His people from their sins (Matt. 1:21))
  - 4) The son born to Mary "will be called the Son of the Most High.

- (a) He will reign on David's throne (2 Samuel 7) and over the house of Jacob forever; His kingdom will never end."
  - (i) God promised Jacob in Genesis 28 the same promise given to Abraham and Isaac that, "All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your Seed."
    - (a) The Christ would come to earth through the line of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as a blessing both to Jacob and his earthly descendants and to the whole world.
      1. God promised blessings to Jacob/Israel (the land of Jacob/ Israel)
      2. And the whole world (eternal peace with God through faith in God's promise, fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.)
      3. God will accomplish all that He has promised both to Jacob and to Gentiles through Christ, the Son of God, the Seed promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- D) Matthew 2:6 quoting Micah 5:2 says, "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of My people Israel."
  - 1) Clearly understood by the leaders of Israel as pertaining to the birthplace of the Christ!

### III) The Incarnation of the Son of God is Praised (worshipped).

- A) Matthew 2:1-11: The Magi from Babylon, for centuries had been anticipating the coming of the Christ, came seeking Him.
  - 1) They saw "the star coming out of Jacob" (Matthew 2:2; Numbers 24:17)
    - (a) Knowing that this was indicative of a strong ruler with divine power and authority.
      - (i) Numbers 24:17a: "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel."
    - (b) When they saw "His star," the star of a king, they came to Israel to find and worship Him (Matt. 2:2)
    - (c) When they found Him in Bethlehem, they were "overjoyed when they saw Him" (Matt. 2:10).
      - (i) They bowed down and worshipped Him (Matt. 2:11).
- B) Luke 1:44: When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting the baby in Elizabeth's womb "leaped for joy."
- C) Luke 1:46-55: Mary praised God with all her might because God chose her to carry His Christ!
- D) Luke 1:67-75: Zechariah, John's father, praised God for the gift of the Christ who was to be born to Mary.
  - 1) Christ, the redeemer (1:68).
  - 2) Christ, the **horn** of God's salvation, and the fulfillment of God's promise to David (1:69).
  - 3) Christ, the savior of Israel (1:71-75)
- E) (Luke 2:13-15) The angels praised God for the Christ event, the incarnation of the Son of God!
- F) (Luke 2:20) The shepherds glorified and praised God for the incarnation of the Son of God!
- G) (Luke 2:28-32) Simeon praised God for the gift of salvation in the person of Christ for all people, including the Gentiles (the nations!)
- H) (Luke 2:36-38) Anna, the prophetess, gave thanks and praised God for the Son of God, the redeemer of all who were looking for Him among the Jews!

### IV) Application

- A) How have you responded to the Good News of the coming of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Savior of the world?
- B) How will you express your praise, adoration and thanksgiving to God for the gift of His Son?
- C) What will you do this Christmas season to spread the Good News that Jesus Christ is the Salvation of God? How will you express your gratitude to God? What difference will Jesus make in your relationships in the days to come?