

**Let Us Celebrate!**  
**“The Truth As We Know It”**  
**10/4/15**

This week I want to follow up on my talk from last week and continue my discussion about the birth of Jesus. The common understanding is that Jesus was born on Christmas day which can be demonstratively shown not to be true. But we should celebrate His birth at the time He was born, in the time of the Feast of Tabernacles, We should keep this biblical feast unto the Lord. It is an appointed time for God to meet with His people, and He does in an awesome way! We should rejoice and celebrate His birth during this time. We should teach our children the truth about His birth and not promote the foolishness about Santa Clause and all the other fables that go with Christmas. Our children will thank us for our truthful stand and trust us far more than if we teach them fables that they will later learn to be untrue.

God in Heaven celebrated by sending His angels to announce Jesus' birth to the shepherds in the fields as we read in Luke 2:8-14 "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 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, good will toward men."

God spoke to the heart of a devout old man that he would get to see the savior before his death, and sure enough when Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the temple for dedication, he took Jesus into his arms and said now I am ready to die. I have seen the Lord. as is told in Luke 2:25-30, "There was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; .. waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus for dedication,.. Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now let thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

The story that intrigues me the most is the story of the star of Bethlehem. Scholars believe it was the planet Jupiter merging with another star that the Wise Men saw. Isn't it fitting that Jupiter, the magnificent king of the planets should herald the birth of the King of Kings!? The awesome thought that God at the creation of the world, whenever that took place, planned it so that these two planets would line up just right so that astrologers in the east of Israel, probably Jews who had remained in Babylon, would recognize it as a sign that The King of Jews had been born in Israel, and inspired them to take that long

tedious journey bringing gifts for the newborn King. The story is told in Mat 2:1-11, "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him."

The Heavens rejoiced! God knew the exact time Jesus would be born way back at the moment of creation!

We continue reading, "When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Judah, art not the least among the princes of Judah: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privately called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were

come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." By now He is no longer a baby in a manger but is toddler under two years old.

God rejoiced at the birth of His son, so should we! Jesus' birth is the symbol of the great love God has for us! in that familiar scripture in John 3:16

16 and I quote, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

God spoke to the prophets hundreds of years before Jesus was born and told of His birth. In Isa 9:6-7, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever."

And in Isa 7:14 we are told of His virgin sinless birth and we read, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." The name 'Jesus' is Greek word translated from 'Yeshua' which means "God with us" God sent the angel Gabriel to

Mary as told in Luke 1:26-35 to announce His birth, "And in the sixth month (of Elisabeth's pregnancy) Gabriel was sent from God .. To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shall call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

The virgin birth is confirmed as the story is told in Mat 1:18-25, "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together sexually, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away

privately. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. ..Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: And knew her not 'sexually' till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS."

Listen again next week.

This we do know, The Bible is God's Word, God's word is true, Jesus Christ is God's son, Jesus died to save us from our sin, Without Jesus we are eternally lost. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we might be saved. Atheism is a temporary condition, for every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! Jesus stands ready to save you now, Will you call on Him today?

Until next week, God bless.