

121717 Christmas in ten names

We need to understand that Christmas was not man's idea...for the psalmist tells us
ISA 57:15 *For this is what the high and lofty One says-- he **who lives forever**, whose name is holy: "I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive (**bring back to life**) the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite. (**repentent**)*

*The great mystery of Christmas is that God became human in Jesus so that all human flesh could be clothed with eternal life. Our lives are fragile and destined to death. But since God, through Jesus, shared in our fragile and mortal lives, death no longer has the final word. Life has become victorious. Paul writes: 1 Corinthians 15:⁵⁴ *When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory.*⁵⁵ *"Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"**

Jesus has come to remove the fatality of our mortal existence and given our lives eternal existence."

Jesus early in his ministry said this....I have come to fulfill everything scripture says..that God would do..

Matt 5:17-18 and Luke 16:17

MT 5:17 *"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law (**Torah**) or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them **but to fulfill them.** ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.*

In fact Jesus said it was easier for heaven and earth to disappear than any word God says to not come to fruition!!

Luke 16:17 *It is easier for heaven and earth to disappear than for the least **stroke** of a pen to drop out of the Law.*

And after his resurrection he opened the minds of His disciples to understand the scripture.

LK 24: 44 *He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."*

⁴⁵ *Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.* ⁴⁶ *He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,* ⁴⁷ *and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.* ⁴⁸ *You are witnesses of these things.*

Please Holy Spirit open our minds and hearts today to understand the Word. Well today I want to show you something to open your minds to the Christmas story told

which was prophesied Long ago and recorded over sixteen hundred years before it happened....

There is a tendency to gloss over certain parts of Scripture thinking they have little meaning or impact to one's life. Chapter 5 of Genesis would be one of them...It is a ten generation genealogy from Adam to Noah...and for most of us at the casual glance it is one of those “so-what” chapters. A list of a group of men with difficult to pronounce Hebrew names wedged between the story of Cain and Abel and the Flood.

God had promised Adam and Eve that a seed would come from her to defeat the work of the enemy. namely the introduction of Sin...which bought death...mortal cessation of life...

He said: GE 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring (seed) and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

- **Jesus told the devil...this woman Eve will bear an offspring/seed...who will crush your head...destroy you and your words and power..**
- **Then Immediately Chapter Four of Genesis gave us the genealogy of Cain...the offspring/ seed who the oppspring would not come through.**

But god being faithful to His Word will carry the seed through Eve by the line of Seth...

GE 4:25 Adam lay with his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth, saying, "God has granted me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him."

So that we would be able to trace a direct line to Jesus ...the seed who crushed Satan...luke gives us that same lineage...

LK 3:37 the son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, the son of Jared, the son of Mahalalel, the son of Kenan, ³⁸ the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

- **According to the genealogical records of Genesis 5, there were ten generations recorded from Adam to Noah...**
- **Excepting Enoch the average of the recorded ages of the other nine patriarchs (law of the fathers) was 912 years**
- **The recorded ages at the births of their children ranged from 65 to 500 years.**
- **Every one of them is said to have had other “sons and daughters”**
- **A conservative assumption of the earths population at the time of the flood...based on these biblical statements is anywhere from 4 to 7 billion people. As many as today!!!**
- **The longevity of the Patriarchs helped to insure an accurate transmission of God’s divine will, The full account of the creation, Paradise, the fall, the promise, religious worship, sacrifice, Satan and the hope to come.**
- **Adam could communicate directly with Lamech concerning God’s law, teaching the oral tradition to Lamech who would have taught it to Noah.**

In Genesis chapter 5, we are going to look at the genealogy of the line from Adam to Noah (through Seth), and we will notice that there is a hidden message to be found there. It is the Christmas message...the gift of God coming to save humans...

It is hidden in the names of the first ten generations given in Genesis 5...it was often the custom in biblical times to give people names which reflect their status, character, or a major event in their lives.

Let's jump in... For Verses 1-3 of Chapter five:

GE 5: 1 This is the written account of Adam's family line. When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. 2 He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them "Mankind" when they were created....

- Adam and Eve were direct creations of God so both called "Mankind"
- The name **Adam means man or mankind or human**

GE 5: 3 When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth. 4 After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. 5 Altogether, Adam lived a total of 930 years, and then he died.

- **Seth** is the line of genealogy that the Redeemer would come through...
- as we are told in Luke's Gospel recounting the genealogy of Jesus:
Luke 3:38 the son of Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.
- Adam a fallen parent could do not more than beget a fallen child. Seth was born in the likeness of his Father.... a fallen child.
- **Seth means "appointed"** as he was the appointed line to carry the "seed"

GE 5: 6 When Seth had lived 105 years, he became the father^[b] of Enosh. 7 After he became the father of Enosh, Seth lived 807 years and had other sons and daughters. 8 Altogether, Seth lived a total of 912 years, and then he died.

- **Enosh means "Mortal or frail or miserable..(from the root anash, to be incurable) often used of a wound, sickness or wickedness.**

GE 5: 9 When Enosh had lived 90 years, he became the father of Kenan. 10 After he became the father of Kenan, Enosh lived 815 years and had other sons and daughters. 11 Altogether, Enosh lived a total of 905 years, and then he died.

- **Kenan means... "sorrow" or wandering/ lost nomad**

GE 5: 12 When Kenan had lived 70 years, he became the father of Mahalalel. ¹³ After he became the father of Mahalalel, Kenan lived 840 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴ Altogether, Kenan lived a total of 910 years, and then he died.

- **Mahalalel means “The blessed God”**

GE 5: 15 When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he became the father of Jared. ¹⁶ After he became the father of Jared, Mahalalel lived 830 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷ Altogether, Mahalalel lived a total of 895 years, and then he died.

- **Jared means “shall come down” from the verb yaradh**

GE 5: 18 When Jared had lived 162 years, he became the father of Enoch. ¹⁹ After he became the father of Enoch, Jared lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁰ Altogether, Jared lived a total of 962 years, and then he died.

- **Enoch means Teaching He was the first of four generations of preachers**
- **He was a teacher**
- **It appears something happened when Enoch had his son...after that period of time He walked with God.**

GE 5: 21 When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. ²² After he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³ Altogether, Enoch lived a total of 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

Methuselah which means “His death shall bring”

- **Muth...to die.....Shalak...to send forth...usually in terms of judgment**
 - **Children can have that effect on a father... It would appear Enoch knew of God, and he might have known him before his son’s birth...but the walking with God didn’t happen until he was sixty five years old**
- **He must have been shown that the Lord’s judgment of the world at that time would come at the end of his son’s life.**
- **It seems he named his son as a witness and prophecy to the people of his generation....God was giving them until the end of Methuselah’s life to get right.**
- **And it radically changed his WALK from whatever it was to walking with God.**
- **The word walk means to**
 - **but in surrender to the pace someone sets. Your steps are in unison, you walk like him.**
- **65 years he walked his way and Three hundred God’s way.**
- **How many years have you walked your way?**
- **How many years have you walked God’s way?**
- **Some of us struggle to walk with God a week straight...I am not saying sinless...but with a heart desire to please him continually.**

- **Some of us walk with him sometimes and without him sometimes**
Enoch walked continually with God for 300 years...a phenomenal accomplishment.

The one who walked with God lived on earth the shortest amount of time...once again pointing out to us that in God's economy the most important thing is to walk with him...not length of time on earth.

And Enoch did not die...he was in a way Raptured out before God's judgment was to happen

Gen 5: 24 Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.

Hebrews 11:5-6 tells us more...

HEB 11: 5 By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away."^[a] For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

- **It was by Faith in what God said that he walked and believed and lived and even named his child.**
- **His faith is what commended Him as one who pleased God.**
- **And he was rewarded by that faith...escaping the coming Judgment**

It is amazing that we have that some opportunity.....To believe in Jesus...Salvation by Jesus alone no works on our part.

JN 5: 24 "Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

And as Paul taught...

1TH 5: 1 Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober.

I say this because Enoch not only prophesied to His generation but to ours...

In fact Jude 14-15 tells us he is the first to prophesy:

JUDE 1: 14 Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about them: "See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones ¹⁵ to judge everyone, and to convict all of them of all the ungodly acts they have committed in their ungodliness, and of all the defiant words ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

- He prophesied to the false teachers of his time ...and ours that the Lord will come to judge. His Second coming
- Maranatha means “the Lord comes” (Greek)
- the true teaching Enoch from the line of Seth

This knowledge ought to have the same effect on us that it had on Enoch it changed His walk... Jesus is coming back.... We must believe in Him and we need to walk with HIM.

Back to GE 5: 21 When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah

Enoch named his son Methuselah “His death shall bring” as a prophesy and witness to the people of his generation....God was giving them until the end of Methuselah’s life to get right.

- Methuselah, oldest man in Bible 969 years
- Demonstrating God’s Grace
- Jewish tradition tells us the Flood came 7 days after his death

Why?

2PE 3: 8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

Moving on..

GE 5: 25 When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech. ²⁶ After he became the father of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷ Altogether, Methuselah lived a total of 969 years, and then he died.

- **Lamech means “Despairing”** ..possibly named because Methuselah saw little repentance of the people.

GE 5: 28 When Lamech had lived 182 years, he had a son. ²⁹ He named him Noah^[c] and said, “He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed.” ³⁰ After Noah was born, Lamech lived 595 years and had other sons and daughters. ³¹ Altogether, Lamech lived a total of 777 years, and then he died.

- **Noah means “Comfort or Rest” from the root nacham “to bring relief” or “comfort”**

TimLets put the ten names of the ten generations together to see what scripture tells us

<u>Adam</u> means	" Man" Mankind
<u>Seth</u> means	"Appointed"
<u>Enosh</u> means	"Mortal"
<u>Kenan</u> means...	"Sorrow" / wandering/ lost"

<u>Mahalalel</u> means	"The blessed God"
<u>Jared</u> means	"Shall come down"
<u>Enoch</u> means	"Teaching "
<u>Methuselah</u> means	"His death shall bring"
<u>Lamech</u> means	"Despairing"
<u>Noah</u> means	"Comfort or Rest"

The Christmas and the Gospel hidden in ten names... God is awesome...

Jesus is our Noah...he is the gift of life to our mortal condition....He is the gift of comfort rest and comfort...Is he your comfort and rest today?

MT 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.(In Hebrew Noah) ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn(teaching) from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

- His yoke is love
- His burden is faith

end

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?" ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." ⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

PS 93:1 The LORD reigns, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and is armed with strength. The world is firmly established; it cannot be moved. PS 93:2 Your throne was established long ago; you are from all eternity.

But this is where the truth and beauty of this seemingly quaint little remark Jesus makes in Matt 5:17-18 and Luke 16:17 comes alive:

MT 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law (Torah) or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. Matt 5:18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law (Torah) until everything is accomplished.

Luke 16:17 It is easier for heaven and earth to disappear than for the least stroke of a pen to drop out of the Law.

And after his resurrection he broke open the minds of His disciples to understand the scripture. The Holy Spirit opens our minds and hearts today to understand the Word.

LK 24:40 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

LK 24:44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses (Torah), the Prophets and the Psalms." (These three will give the complete picture....today we will discover part of the picture in Genesis 5)

LK 24:45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Hold on and we will discover some faith strengthening insights today.

But first some knowledge before we start the chapter

- The life spans of the patriarchs are exceedingly long compared to this day and age.
- There are some reasons for this

- The pristine conditions of the world. Although Adam and Eve had to leave the Garden of Eden...they still lived in an idyllic world, not ravaged by pollution, drought etc.
- The soil would be rich in nutrients, water pure, air rich in oxygen, the world was close to the condition That the Lord said it was in Gen. 1:31 “Very Good”
- The water canopy surrounding the earth (Gen1:7 “above the firmament”) causing a uniform temperature...a green house effect and shielding the earth from harmful radiation (which science tells us today is the main cause of aging).
- Vegetarian diet, lack of disease, and a healthy genetic pool.

Would make for a long life span... a most reasonable conclusion.

1656 years from Adam to the Flood.

- Of Great interest is the fact that Adam was alive at the time of Lamech...Noah’s father. Adam did not die until Lamech was 56 years old. And had only been dead 126 years before Noah was born.
- Cain and Seth made in the image of Adam... Both members of a fallen race, both with a fallen or sin nature.
- *RO 5:12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—*
- Each person’s life with the exception of Enoch...ends with “He died” the sad reminder and consequence of sin. No matter how long they lived the result is the same death.

He tells us the Lord is coming a second time, and Peter expounds on this:

*2PE 3:3 First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. ⁴ They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation." ⁵ But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. ⁶ By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. ⁷ By the same word the present heavens and **earth** are reserved for **fire**, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.*

2PE 3:8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

*2PE 3:10 But the day of the Lord **will come like a thief**. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by **fire**, and the **earth** and everything in it will be laid bare.*

2PE 3:11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

MT 11:25 At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.

MT 11:27 "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.