

12042022 The Glory of Christmas... The great mystery of Christmas is that God came down from Heaven, became mortal a human in Jesus so that human bodies could be given immortal eternal life. Demonstrated by the Resurrections of his body proving death no longer has the final word. This is the gift from Heaven for the problem on earth

*NLT Paul writes: 1 Corinthians 15: ⁵³ For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. ⁵⁴ Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵ O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your **sting**?"*

*1 Cor 15:56 For sin is the **sting** (the poison) that results in death, and the law (the Torah) gives sin its power...*

- **The law can't conquer sin...for in order for it to conquer sin..it must be applied perfectly...only one human could do it..!**

*⁵⁷ But thank God! **He** gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

How?

*NIV 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.***

This would happen when the time was right...out of all of time ...one time was the right time...

*NLT GAL 4:4 **But when the right time came,** God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. ⁵ God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children.*

God is so confident about his timing and his ability to carry out his plans...He tells us what he is going to do way before it happens...

NLT Amos 3:7 *Indeed, the Sovereign LORD never does anything until he reveals his plans to his servants the prophets.*

- He revealed the big picture to his prophets ...who spoke of it and recorded it in scripture...**minus the exact timing and exact circumstances**
- **Why? Because there is an enemy who also has access to the natural world...so God disguises his timing and exact circumstances...** To keep the devil and his demons off track.
- **Knowing that What God says...he will do... he will do So that we can put our faith in the word of God...and his ability to carry that word out to completion...at the right time...**

Today I want to show you something to increase your faith by revealing one of the ways God told the Christmas story over sixteen hundred years before the timing was right for it to actually happen....

In Chapter 5 of Genesis hidden in plain sight...is the Christmas message...the story of redemption...

As recorded by Moses ... **Chapter 5 is a ten generation genealogy from Adam to Noah... A list of ten men with difficult to pronounce Hebrew names wedged between the story of Cain and Abel and the Flood. hidden in plain sight... **Context...****

After Adam and Eve sinned and death was sure to follow...God 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...

The seed through Eve would be through the lineage of her next born son Seth...

NLT GE 4: 25 Adam had sexual relations with his wife again, and she gave birth to another son. She named him Seth, for she said, "God has granted me another son in place of Abel, whom Cain killed." 26 When Seth grew up, he had a son and named him Enosh. At that time people first began to worship the LORD by name.

So that we would be able to trace a direct line to Jesus ... According to the genealogical records of Genesis 5, there were ten generations recorded from Adam to Noah...

- Excepting Enoch the average recorded ages of the other nine patriarchs was 912 years
 - **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.**
 - **In Genesis chapter 5, we are going to look at the genealogy of the line from Adam to Noah, and it will reveal the Christmas message... 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... starting at verse 1 of Chapter five, verse one gives a restating of the beginning...and the first of the ten generations to Noah... today's Christmas story!**

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**

NLT GE 5: 3 When Adam was 130 years old, he became the father of a son who was just like him—in his very image. He named his son Seth. 4 After the birth of Seth, Adam lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters. 5 Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.

- 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” that the Redeemer would come through...

GE 5: 6 When Seth was 105 years old, he became the father of^[b] Enosh. 7 After the birth of^f Enosh, Seth lived another 807 years, and he had other sons and daughters. 8 Seth lived 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.**
- **The now familiar experience of death brough much pain...perhaps that is why his dad named Mortal, or Frail**

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

- **Kenan means... “sorrow” or wandering/ lost a nomad....what is life about anyway?**

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

- **Mahalalel means “The blessed God”...hope in God** *GE 5: 15 When Mahalalel was 65 years old, he became the father of Jared. 16 After the*

birth of Jared, Mahalalel lived another 830 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷ Mahalalel lived 895 years, and then he died.

- **Jared means “shall come down” from the verb yaradh...God will help us**

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

- **Enoch means Teaching He was the first of four generations of preachers...he was devoted to God ...but not always**

- **It appears something happened when Enoch had his son...after that period of time He walked with God.**

GE 5: ²¹ When Enoch was 65 years old, he became the father of Methuselah. ²² After the birth of Methuselah, Enoch lived in close fellowship with God for another 300 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ²³ Enoch lived 365 years, ²⁴ walking in close fellowship with God. Then one day he disappeared, because God took him.

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 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 walking in close fellowship with God. Then one day he disappeared, because God took him.

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

JUDE 1: 14 Enoch, who lived in the seventh generation after Adam, prophesied about these people. He said, "Listen! The Lord is coming with countless thousands of his holy ones ¹⁵ to execute judgment on the people of the world. He will convict every person of all the ungodly things they have done and for all the insults that ungodly sinners have spoken against him."

He prophesied to the evil people of his time ...and ours that the Lord will come to judge. His Second comingMaranatha means "the Lord comes" (Greek)

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**

2PE 3: 8 But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day. 9 The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.

Moving on..

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

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

GE 5: 28 When Lamech was 182 years old, he became the father of a son. 29 Lamech named his son Noah, for he said, “May he bring us relief from our work and the painful labor of farming this ground that the LORD has cursed.” 30 After the birth of Noah, Lamech lived another 595 years, and he had other sons and daughters. 31 Lamech lived 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"

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 rest and comfort...He your comfort and rest today for all who receive him?

NLT MT 11:28 Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. (In Hebrew Noah) ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

**• His yoke is love.....His burden is faith
Now that is a great Christmas Gift**

End

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

HEB 11: 5 It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—“he disappeared, because God took him.” For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God. 6 And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

It was by Faith in what God said that he walked and believed and lived and even named his child.

There is a tendency to gloss over certain parts of Scripture thinking they have little meaning or impact to one's life....but all scripture is inspired by God...

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

- **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!!!**

Then Immediately Chapter Four of Genesis gave us the genealogy of Cain the murderer of Abel...the offspring/ seed of Adam and Eve who would not be the one from which the healer would come....

- **Jewish tradition tells us the Flood came 7 days after his death**

Why?

- **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 “I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

Jesus early in his ministry said this.... *NIV 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. ...*
Fulfilling the law the blood exchange of poisoned blood for pure blood from a fellow human is the antidote...to sin and it resulting death...

NLT Paul writes: 1 Corinthians 15: ⁵³ For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies. ⁵⁴ Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: “Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵ O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”

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.

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- **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 "I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

I say this because

So today

GE 5: 1This is the written account of the descendants of Adam. When God created human beings, he made them to be like himself. 2 He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them "human."

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

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...**

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

NIV 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.* The Torah

- **Adam could communicate directly with Lamech concerning God's law, teaching the oral tradition to Lamech who would have taught it to Noah.**

Luke 17:26 "When the Son of Man returns, it will be like it was in Noah's day. ²⁷ In those days, the people enjoyed banquets and parties and weddings right up to the time Noah entered his boat and the flood came and destroyed them all.

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.

GE 5: ¹This is the written account of the descendants of Adam. When God created human beings,² he made them to be like himself. ² He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them "human."

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

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.

We need to understand the coming of Jesus celebrated at Christmas was not man's idea...it was birthed in the heart of God...foretold through the prophets and came to pass two thousand years ago.

Through His prophets, and later through the New Testament apostles' writings, God has given those who are spiritually hungry insights into the past, present, and future of His redemptive plan.

Central to all His Word, from Genesis to Revelation, is the role of God the Son in restoring humanity and creation to a condition that brings eternal glory to the triune God . He tells us his future plans that we may have faith in the present.

A foundational verse concerning the purpose of God's writing is:

Amos 3:7: Indeed, the Sovereign LORD never does anything until he reveals his plans to his servants the prophets.

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

NLT 24: 44 Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. 46 And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. 47 It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.' 48 You are witnesses of all these things.

Please Holy Spirit open our minds and hearts today to understand the Word.

A couple of the most profound and amazing prophecies of Christmas

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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**)*