

# Why the Incarnation? The Conspiracy of the Ages Luke 2:1-7 Ephesians 1:3-14 Genesis 3:15

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Luke 2:1-7

"Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all the people were on their way to register for the census, each to his own city. Now Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the



city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary, who was betrothed to him, and was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." (NASB 2020)

Why did Jesus come at the time He did? Was this planned out and for how long was it planned? Was His coming only to be born of a virgin and then have a significant teaching ministry for a few years then be executed by all who were threatened by Him. Or is there more to it than that?

Who is He?

Let me see if I can help to clear up some of the fog that gathers every year at this time.

The coming of Jesus was not a knee jerk reaction to the failure of the Jewish nation to spread news about YAHWEH all across the planet. God knew they would fail and the incarnation was actually, planned by God at the same time He was working on creation. Before He created anything, while still in the planning phase, the need for Redemption became a topic and decisions were made.

We tend to forget that God, all three persons, has always existed. One of the prayers of Moses that we find in the Psalms expresses this clearly.

# Psalm 90:2

"Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God." (NASB 2020)

Jesus, in His preincarnate form was actually there at the creation of everything, in fact, He is the one who created everything (Colossians 1:16). But I am getting a bit ahead of myself. First, the plan.

Just before Jesus went to the cross, He revealed, in a prayer to the Father that the disciples listened in to, some aspects of this all having been preplanned.

# John 17:4-5

"I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify

me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed." (ESV)

As He arrived in the manger, He was already looking forward to the cross. Everything was on schedule. Later in the same chapter, we learn a bit more.

# John 17:24

"Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world." (ESV)

We learn this from Jesus, that He has a relationship with God the Father and that it has existed for eternity. We also learned earlier that the scriptures speak of Him, and that would be the Old Testament at the time.

#### John 5:39

"You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!" (NLT)



Three days after the death of Jesus on the cross, He walked out of the grave and once again tells us the reason He was here, is in the Old Testament, all of it.

This was explained the evening of His resurrection as He met with a couple of men walking to Emmaus and had a teaching moment with them.

#### Luke 24:25-27

"And then He said to them, "You foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to come into His glory?" Then beginning with Moses and with all the Prophets, He explained to them the things written about Himself in all the Scriptures." (NASB 2020)

Is there anything else about this plan in the scriptures? What would we call this plan? What did the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit conspire to do here on this planet through the incarnation?

Redemption. And this was not a last-minute thing, redemption was meticulously planned with decisions, agreements, and details worked through before the creation of the world.

In his letter to the church in Ephesus, Paul tells us the promises of God we have in Christ. We are looking though, for the origins of the plan of Redemption; the scarlet thread that runs throughout the Bible.

We get a general idea of timeframe from what Paul says. Let's look at the text first. If you are following in the notes, I am highlighting those sections of the text that meet our criteria.

# Ephesians 1:3-14

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love He predestined us to adoption as sons and daughters through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, with which He favored us in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our wrongdoings, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He set forth in Him, regarding His plan of the fullness of the times, to bring all things together in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him we also have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things in accordance with the plan of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in the Christ would be to the praise of His glory. In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of the promise, who is a first installment of our inheritance, in regard to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory." (NASB 2020)

This tells us that even before He began the actual act of creation, He already knew that giving free will to His creation would result in some of that creation, in both realms He created, making a poor decision. God is indeed omniscient, he knows everything thus He would indeed know of members of His good creation, rejecting obedience to what it is He asked them to do.

As He was putting together the plans for creation, He already knew the results that would happen and instead of stopping or making us all robots who would always obey, He still chose to give His heavenly host as well as us humans, free will. The result was built into us to decide who it is we want to follow.



Some of the heavenly realm rebelled, and the first two members of the physical realm here on earth, they both rebelled dooming the entire human race. God wanted His creation to want to love Him and follow Him and worship Him freely.

When He began creation, the first realm He created was the heavenly one, a spiritual realm. "God created the angels and other kinds of heavenly beings as well as animals and man. He also created heaven as a place where his presence is especially evident." (Grudem 2020, 341)

We know this because of the book of Job.

#### Job 38:4-7

"Were you there when I made the world? If you know so much, tell me about it. Who decided how large it would be? Who stretched the measuring line over it? Do you know all the answers? What holds up the pillars that support the earth? Who laid the cornerstone of the world? In the dawn of that day the stars sang together, and the heavenly beings shouted for joy." (GNB)

God tells us that as He was creating the universe, the unseen realm was already there singing and shouting for joy. Implying they had already been created and job assignments parceled out. Jesus had already created them.

# Colossians 1:15-17

"Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together." (NLT)

The unseen realm being created first though makes sense. You see, where Christ is visible, God is spirit (John 4:24).

And yes, He also knew what would happen in the heavenlies among those who lived there and served Him there. Here is the thing about the plan of Redemption, it is focused on human beings, not divine beings.

From the outside looking in, it appears to us that "God's original plan was to live among his human family on earth. We who were made lesser than the divine beings (Heb 2:6–7) were destined to become members of God's household. At the fall, this goal was derailed. The rest of the Bible is about God's effort to restore what was lost—to dwell among his people, transforming the earth into his kingdom.

The point is straightforward: the plan of salvation is focused on human beings because human beings were the original object of eternal life in God's presence on earth. Angels were not the focus, because the fall disrupted an earthly enterprise. God's human imagers were corrupted, left estranged from God—left unfit to live in God's presence. In the end, it will be human beings who will share authority with Christ in ruling the new earth, not angels." (Heiser, Angels: What the Bible Really Says about God's Heavenly Host 2018, 152-153)

Look at the personal touch we see in Genesis 2:7. When making man, God personally breathed the breath of life into Adam. We see the same in the details of how He created Eve, personally, for Adam.

Being made in His image meant being created with free will. Because God knew human free will would lead man away from the Creator, God already had a plan in place. "Indeed, disobedience and sin were



chosen by our ancestors, and have been chosen by every generation since. To draw humanity back to the Creator. God set the redemption plan in motion in the Garden of Eden." (Fogle 2011, 19) But the planning was pre-creation of either realm and at Eden, it was put into play.

# Genesis 3:15

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."" (ESV)

In this Messianic prophecy, God is telling Adam and Eve that a descendant of Eve would come forth who would undo the damage that they caused in the fall. And it will be a descendant of Eve, not Adam. Think virgin birth. Satan thought God would immediately zap Adam and Eve and clear the path for him. That did not happen.

God would see to it that their lives ended, but not before continuing his plan. Humanity would die, but it would also, at some point, produce a descendant who would ultimately restore God's Edenic vision and destroy the nachash. (Heiser, The Unseen Realm: Discovering the Supernatural World of the Bible 2025. 107)

This begins the crimson thread that passes throughout the scriptures and points to the incarnation, the coming of Jesus Christ, both God and man at the same time.

"What was the motive of the Triune God in planning salvation? The Father, Son and Holy Spirit had only one motive: LOVE (John 3:16; 13:1). They all agree on the motive behind the plan of salvation. What was the purpose of the Triune God in this plan? The Father, Son and Holy Spirit planned to redeem and save sinners (Matt. 1:21; Luke 9:10; Gal. 1:4; Eph. 5:25-27; 1 Tim. 1:15; Tit. 2:14). Not once are we told that God only wanted to make salvation possible. All the members of the Godhead agree on the purpose of the plan of salvation.

What means did God choose to accomplish His purpose? The Father, Son and Holy Spirit all agreed to a division of labor in which the Father did the planning, the Son did the accomplishing and the Spirit did the applying. They all agree to the means of redemption." (Morey 2011, 63)

Prior to the creation of everything, God developed His plans which were based on His perfect knowledge, and it is this perfect plan of redemption stamped with His eternal purpose prior to the beginning of creation, that also included our redemption through the blood of Christ.

God knows that there are those who will never freely accept His offer of salvation through the work of Christ on the cross. He also knows that there are those, not many, but a few, who will indeed accept the offer of redemption.

Because He knows everything, when did He know that? Before creation.

Yes, that is tough to understand but when Jesus died on the cross it was for all, not just those who would believe.

John 3:16-18

""For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him. The one who believes in Him is not judged; the one who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God." (NASB 2020)

God has not changed His plan. Redemption is THE PLAN.



Thus the plan in God's mind at the moment of creation is the same plan He is working out now. In His eternal and infinite wisdom He devised a way to carry it out despite the entrance of sin; this way is redemption through Jesus Christ. This does not mean that redemption itself was God's original purpose; rather it is the eternally devised means of achieving it. His eternal purpose is "carried out" in Christ (Eph 3:11). (Cottrell 2012, 423)

So, let's recap. The virgin birth, the incarnation of Jesus Christ as a man, was in the plan before anything was created at all. His birth, life, death and resurrection was already mapped out and He would come at THE right moment in history as predetermined by a loving Father based on His perfect foreknowledge of events that would take place here on earth after creation.

We know that as a result of Genesis 3, all of mankind is subjected, as well as the entire physical universe, to the curse. But what about the heavenlies, the unseen realm?

Of the angels, by the time they are all cast out of heaven by Michael in Revelation 12, fully 1/3 of them (Revelation 12:4) have rebelled against God. We do not know what that is in terms of numbers, but it is significant.

Job also tells us about the rebellion taking place in the heavenlies.

Job 15:15

"Look, **God does not even trust the angels.** Even the heavens are not absolutely pure in his sight." (NLT)

Back to the plan. It begins full implementation with God's declaration of war against the Nacash there in the garden after the Nacash deceived Eve, and Adam joined with her in the fall. God knew this was going to be the outcome and it did not take Him by surprise.

We learn in His declaration; this will require a unique birth. Let's look at it again.

Genesis 3:14-15

"So the LORD God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. 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."" (NKJV)

Two sets of offspring are referenced here. Your seed, offspring and her seed, offspring. Antichrist and the Christ. Satan is a counterfeiter and as we see in Revelation 13, he will go as far as counterfeiting the trinity.

The seed of Satan would be the Antichrist, also known as the Man of Sin, or my favorite term from John, "it." Her seed, implying virgin birth.

Here we have the first announcement concerning the supernatural birth of our Saviour. It was prophetically foretold that He should enter this world in an unique manner. "Her seed"—the woman's seed, not the man's! How literally this was fulfilled we learn from the two inspired records given us in the New Testament of the miraculous conception. (Pink 2005, 43)

And with that we begin God's plan of redemption. A man, a God man, who will come and bruise Satan's head, an action which began with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and will become final with the casting of Satan into the Lake of Fire which we see in Revelation 20:10.



Satan began doing things to try and make the fulfillment of this prophecy from God invalid. His first attempt we see with the murder of Abel, that was not it though. So, Satan recruited a group of Watchers to join him in rebellion. And they did so in Genesis 6 by coming down to earth and corrupting the human genome.

That didn't work either, but it did lead to a serious change in the world via the flood. Eventually taking us to another rebellion event at Babel in Genesis 11. As a result, God forced mankind to cover the planet, as He commanded when talking to Noah earlier in Genesis 9:7. Going from one language to over 70 did the job.

From God calling out Abram from Ur of the Chaldees up to the time of David, there was an idea of a future Messiah, but David became the incomplete template for what Messiah would ultimately look like.

One of David's grandsons, who was probably one of the worst Kings ever in the history of Judah, was challenged, while in the middle of a war he caused, by the prophet Isaiah to come up with a test to prove that God would protect Judah.

He refused to do so. So, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Isaiah provides an amazing prophecy.

#### Isaiah 7:13-14

"Then he said, "Hear now, O house of David! Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." (NKJV)

Messiah is coming, He will be unique, so unique, He will be born of a virgin. Now we have Genesis 3 telling us that as well as Isaiah 7. Do we know where He will be born?

Another prophet, Micah wound up providing that insight for us.

# Micah 5:2

""But you, **Bethlehem** Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, **Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."" (NKJV)** 

Virgin born, and God in the flesh and to be born in Bethlehem.

Where will we see Him work? Is there anything else that we can learn about this one who is coming? This one who is planned from before creation even began.

# Isaiah 9:1-7

"But there will be no more gloom for her who was in anguish. In earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He will make it glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles. The people who walk in darkness Will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them. You will multiply the nation, You will increase their joy; They will rejoice in Your presence As with the joy of harvest, As people rejoice when they divide the spoils. For You will break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders, The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian. For every boot of the marching warrior in the roar of battle, And cloak rolled in blood, will be for burning, fuel for the fire. For a Child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace On the throne of David and over his



kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of armies will accomplish this." (NASB 2020)

This child, the Messiah, is God in the flesh. It looks totally impossible, but no, it did indeed happen just as prophesied. The focus is on the northern kingdom of Israel, that is where Messiah will minister. And He will be presented to the Gentiles. Matthew took the ministry of Jesus and His being raised in Nazareth and His ministry operations being centered in Capernaum as direct fulfillment of this section of Isaiah's prophecy.

One more thing, we have the first coming here and the second coming here. This coming child, has a distinctive plan and future.

We are looking at two separate appearances of the light here in verse 2 and 3. Verse 2 is looking at the first coming of Jesus and verse 3 is about the second coming of Jesus. Isaiah is not covering the period between those two appearances. "The hiatus between verses 2 and 3 has already been two thousand years long. Why didn't Isaiah give any prophecy about this period? Because during this interval God is calling out the church which was unknown to Isaiah." (McGee 1997, 220)

Twice in verse 3 Isaiah makes the point that during this coming time, the people will increase in gladness. The reason why, because of the presence of God with us, with us for real. This is speaking about the Messianic kingdom and the events surrounding the inception of it.

But back to this plan. The first coming of Messiah, would be God becoming man. We are talking about the incarnation here.

And something else, this coming one, is coming to suffer and die for everyone. Isaiah saw the detail, Daniel saw the timing, the when this would happen. John saw the stopwatch.

#### Daniel 9:25-27

"So you are to know and understand that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem, until Messiah the Prince, there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with streets and moat, even in times of distress. Then after the sixty-two weeks, the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. And he will confirm a covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come the one who makes desolate, until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, gushes forth on the one who makes desolate."" (NASB 2020)

Daniel puts a stake in the ground around an event witnessed by Ezra, which started a clock ticking which, during that time, Messiah would indeed be born.

As the time drew close, and some were indeed keeping track, there were those beginning to look for Him as a child. But first the events in Bethlehem.

# Luke 2:1-7

"Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all the people were on their way to register for the census, each to his own city. Now Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary, who was betrothed to him, and was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she



wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." (NASB 2020)

By the way, in chapter 1, Luke also tells us that Mary was pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. In other words, she was a virgin, having a baby. God with us was becoming reality.

Eight days after He was born, per the law, He was presented in the Temple, contrary to what some allege, Jesus is Jewish from the tribe of Judah, a descendant of King David.

While at the Temple, there were two folks who were looking for the Messiah, they knew He was coming soon. Simeon was the first.

# Luke 2:27-32

"And he came by the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, then he took Him in his arms, and blessed God, and said, "Now, Lord, You are letting Your bond-servant depart in peace, According to Your word; For my eyes have seen Your salvation, Which You have prepared in the presence of all the peoples: A light for revelation for the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel."" (NASB 2020)

The other who was also there that day was a Prophetess, Anna and she also reflected that this child would be the one who redeems Israel.

I said John had the stopwatch.

He was shown the timing of all of the events by the Lord in the book of Revelation. He is shown a star chart in Revelation 12 that tells us what it was the Magi were looking for.

#### Revelation 12:1–2

"A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars; and she was pregnant and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth." (NASB 2020)

"The constellation of the Pregnant Woman is a sky entity of gigantic proportions (the constellation Virgo is the only female figure in the zodiac and is the second largest of all the constellations). Indications of her colossal size are the facts that there are twelve stars (or constellations) about her head, with her feet over the moon and the sun contained within her contours." (Malina and Pilch 2000, 155)

For contemporaries of the prophet John, his description of this sky Woman with sun as her garment, a crown of twelve stars and the moon at her feet would obviously and necessarily be related to a constellation located in the ecliptic, that is, in the path of the sun. In

the vision she would be in the middle of the sky, since the sun covers her. But her clothing would change every month with the course of the sun and moon through the zodiacal constellations; and the moon at her feet situates her location to the south of the ecliptic. (Malina and Pilch 2000)

The ecliptic is the imaginary line in the sky that the sun and the moon follow as they pass through the sky. In this case, she is clothed with the sun and the moon is at her feet.

Yes, we do indeed have a description of events here on earth, but symbolically here in the sky, we have the birth of Jesus.



This star chart of the coming King has been in the stars since creation. Remember how old this plan is. But there is something about this star chart that gives us a whole lot more information about Jesus Christ and His coming to this planet.

The observations that are being described are based on viewing from Israel. And yes, the Magi, clued in by Daniel, were also watching and waiting, observing from the Parthian Empire.

"The only time in the year that the Sun could be in a position to "clothe" the celestial woman called Virgo (that is, to be mid-bodied to her, in the region where a pregnant woman carries a child) is when the Sun is located between about 150 and 170 degrees along the ecliptic. This "clothing" of the woman by the Sun occurs for a 20-day period each year. This 20 degree spread could indicate the general time when Jesus was born. In 3 B.C.E., the Sun would have entered this celestial region about August 27 and exited from it about September 15." (Associates for Scriptural Knowledge 2023)

Why 3 BC? That would be based on the information regarding the birth of John the Baptist and when the course of Abijah would have been serving in the Temple. There is also the issue of when Jesus would present Himself as Messiah which is Palm Sunday as well as the prophecy of Daniel. Time prevents me from going into all of the details of this amazing event.

The key though is the Moon which John says is under her feet. Yes, there are moving parts to this as well. Does it mean that John sees her standing on the moon or slightly above? He doesn't tell us.

The use of astronomical software and an understanding of orbital mechanics as well as all the pieces John references brings us to this possible conclusion.

Since the feet of Virgo the Virgin represent the last 7 degrees of the constellation (in the time of Jesus this would have been between about 180 and 187 degrees along the ecliptic), the Moon has to be positioned somewhere under that 7 degree arc to satisfy the description of Revelation 12. But the Moon also has to be in that exact location when the Sun is mid-bodied to Virgo. In the year 3 B.C.E., these two factors came to precise agreement for about an hour and a half, as observed from Palestine or Patmos, in the twilight period of September 11th The relationship began about 6:15 p.m. (sunset), and lasted until around 7:45 p.m. (moonset). This is the only day in the whole year that the astronomical phenomenon described in the twelfth chapter of Revelation could take place. (Associates for Scriptural Knowledge 2023)

So, on the evening of September 11, 3BC, shortly after sun set, the Jews would have the date as Tishri 1, which is also Rosh Hashanah, the Feast of Trumpets; Messiah was born.

Per Jewish tradition, "since the theme of Rosh HaShanah is repentance, the observance takes on a somber character, yet always with a hint of hope because of God's forgiveness." And it was on that date per the star chart given to John, that Jesus Christ was born. He arrived making forgiveness, redemption, possible. (Kasdan 2007, 64)

"All the details of Rosh HaShanah become more interesting as we consider the New Testament and the life of Yeshua. The bulk of biblical evidence has led me to agree with those who say the Messiah's birth took place in the late fall, not the winter. If this is true, we can approximate the time when Yeshua started his public ministry. As Luke notes in his Gospel (3:23), Yeshua was "about thirty years old" thus placing his baptism and first preaching in the fall of that year." That alone holds significance to the Jewish perception of the day. (Kasdan 2007, 66)

Other events that took place on that date



# Genesis 8:13

"In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water that had covered the earth was dried up. Then Noah removed the ark's cover and saw that the surface of the ground was drying." (CSB)

The Jews also believe the world was created on that day as well.

We also discover, as part of the plan of Redemption, that Messiah would be cut off, killed is the word that Daniel uses.

Isaiah goes further to describe the suffering servant, the Messiah and what it is that He achieved on the cross for us. The entire Levitical system of sacrifices and offerings all pointed to Jesus. Even the furniture in the Temple pointed to Jesus.

# Hebrews 10:5-10

"That is why, when Christ came into the world, he said to God, "You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings. But you have given me a body to offer. You were not pleased with burnt offerings or other offerings for sin. Then I said, 'Look, I have come to do your will, O God— as is written about me in the Scriptures.' "First, Christ said, "You did not want animal sacrifices or sin offerings or burnt offerings or other offerings for sin, nor were you pleased with them" (though they are required by the law of Moses). Then he said, "Look, I have come to do your will." He cancels the first covenant in order to put the second into effect. For God's will was for us to be made holy by the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all time." (NLT)

Isaiah though, gives us 20 very specific prophecies of why Jesus came, and what it is He did on the cross for us. Isaiah 52:13-53:12 is an amazing prophecy of the work of Jesus Christ, on the cross. The major thing I want to focus on is the why, why He came.

# Isaiah 53:11-12

"As a result of the anguish of His soul, He will see it and be satisfied; **By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, For He will bear their wrongdoings.** Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the plunder with the strong, **Because He poured out His life unto death, And was counted with wrongdoers; Yet He Himself bore the sin of many, And interceded for the wrongdoers."** (NASB 2020)

Jesus came to be our sin bearer. His incarnation as a child pointed, from the very beginning of the universe, to the cross and the achievement He will do their. Our redemption.

#### Hebrews 9:28

"so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without reference to sin, to those who eagerly await Him." (NASB 2020)

Jesus fulfilled multiple prophecies made by Isaiah 700 plus years before the cross, and because of what He achieved on the cross, when He returns, it is indeed for salvation.

For those who look at all that God has done to provide salvation for us and believe the work Christ did on the cross, He is, right now, making intercession for us as well. He came for a specific purpose. Redemption.

# Hebrews 7:25

"Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf." (NLT)



If you do not know Him, the Holy Spirit is at this very moment talking to you and saying to you, just believe. Quit running and just believe.

# Romans 3:21-24

"But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins." (NLT)

# Romans 10:9-13

"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."" (NLT)

#### ABC's of Salvation

- A. Acknowledge that you are a sinner, tell Him that.
- B. Believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sin and that He rose from the dead.
- C. Confess that Jesus is Lord. Tell someone about what you have done.

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