

The Pinnacle of History

The Bible reveals two eternal Beings that have always been in existence: God the Father and the Word, Christ His Son. John states that in the beginning the Word had already existed and that all things were made through Christ and without Him nothing was made. Genesis indicates that creation was more of a dual effort by these two Beings with humankind created in 'Their Own' image and likeness.

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

Gen 1:26-27 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Isa 64:8 But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

Everything created obeyed the Creator(s) with the exception of humankind but is this because they were given the option of freewill? Was God hoping to create a family in 'Their image?' A family is a group of two or more persons related by birth, marriage, or adoption who live together; all such related persons are considered members of one family. As a member of a family, one can be depended upon, entrusted to do what is right and to not betray each other. Could this new family be trusted?

Almost right from their beginning the first couple disobeyed the rules of the house. Eve was deceived by the cunning liar Satan who told her that God was lying about the forbidden fruit. Adam bought the same lie told by Eve. Sadly, their second child, Abel, was murdered by his older, jealous brother Cain. Not a very good start for the first family that had been given dominion over everything under the sun. The sinful effects of Adam and Eve's encounter with Satan was passed down to their children, and in turn to each of us. We all have sinned as willingly as our first ancestors did.

Rom 5:12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned--

Mankind's ungodly behavior continued down to Noah's time when the Creator(s) decided to scrap all the landlubbers from the face of earth except for Enoch's great-grandson and his family of eight that complied with the requests given by God. So Noah, along with his family and a boat load of animals, birds and creepy crawlers, set sail on the infamous ark, while the sinful people, along with every living creature on land, perished in a flood.

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Genesis 6:5-9 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.

Genesis 6:17-18 "And behold, I Myself am bringing floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. "But I will establish My covenant with you (Noah) and you shall go into the ark-you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you.

The Potters' had had enough and decided to 'reboot' and start again with eight people this time, but a promise was made to Noah by God, that the population of the earth would never again be completely destroyed.

Genesis 8:21-22 Then the LORD said in His heart, "I will never again curse the ground for man's sake, although the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done."While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease."

*Freewill was given to people so that they might choose right from wrong, but God saw that **"every intent of the thoughts of man's heart was only evil continually."** As time went on, the world eventually became just as bad or even worse than it was before the flood. Total destruction was no longer an option to rid the world of evil. From the beginning God had also created a master plan to save humans from total destruction.*

Early in the 2nd millennium, God made a covenant with Abraham and his descendants. God set this family apart and called them, "The Children of Israel." Very specific rules were given directly to Moses by God Himself which included His laws, statutes and ordinances.

Detailed instructions were given for establishing and carrying out a sacrificial system that was to mark Israel's worship under the terms of this covenant between Israel and God. This sacrificial system used the blood of unblemished animals for atonement for different types of sin. The nation of Israel observed this system of sacrifices year by year until the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem by the Roman Empire in 70AD.

2 Kings 17:37 And the statutes, and the ordinances, and the law, and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do for evermore;

2 Chron 7:19-20 "But if you turn away and forsake My statutes and My commandments which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods, and worship them, "then I will uproot them from My land which I have given them; and this house which I have

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sanctified for My name I will cast out of My sight, and will make it a proverb and a byword among all peoples.

Lev 9:7 And Moses said to Aaron, "Go to the altar, offer your sin offering and your burnt offering, and make atonement for yourself and for the people. Offer the offering of the people, and make atonement for them, as the LORD commanded."

The Hebrew root word translated "atonement" is kaphar which conveys the idea of "covering," not a total removal.

Kaphar: to cover, purge, make an atonement, make reconciliation, to coat or cover over with pitch, pacify, propitiate, atone for sin.

For centuries, tens of thousands of animals were ceremonially slaughtered by Jewish priests. This sacrificial blood illustrates the deadly seriousness of sin; however, these sacrifices essentially acted like a bandage, only serving as a covering for sin. The blood of animals did not, and could not, remove sin.

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

There was a plan for salvation from the beginning: the Father foreordained that His Son would be born as a human being and become the acceptable sacrifice for the remission of all sin committed by humanity, past, present and future.

1 Peter 1:18-21 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Many of God's prophecies foretold of His Son coming as the Messiah to the 'lost children of Israel' yet only a small number of people acknowledged or accepted Him when He came.

Isaiah 61:1 "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, **To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to those who are bound.**

This prophesy of Isaiah was among so many that were fulfilled by Yeshua during the 33 years of His life and is recorded in the gospel of Luke.

Luke 4:17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the

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brokenhearted, To **proclaim liberty to the captives** And recovery of sight to the blind, **To set at liberty those who are oppressed**; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Yeshua had just spent 40 days fasting in the desert and was now ready to start His ministry. He was essentially reading Isaiah 61:1 as His 'mission statement' to the public which stated that He is the Messiah sent by God to free the people from their sin.

Christ was opposed by human and spiritual enemies throughout His life. King Herod attempted to kill Him as a babe; Satan tempted Him several times and used Judas to betray Him; in the end, the religious leaders had Him executed by the Roman government because they selfishly rationalized Him as a threat, wanting Him out of their way.

Luke 9:22 The Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day.

Matt 27:9-10 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field, as the LORD directed me."

Yeshua lived a perfect, sinless life and yet was betrayed by His own disciple, Judas, for a mere thirty pieces of silver. He was then handed over to the elders and chief priests who persuaded the Roman authorities to have Him condemned to die a criminal death.

*Christ went through unspeakable humiliation and suffering while carrying the weight of innumerable sins put upon Him. **The Son of God's suffering was deemed the only sin offering acceptable to reconcile mankind to God the Father.***

Phil 2:5-8 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Each of us must ask ourselves these questions: Would we have rejected Messiah as those who did at His coming? Would we have followed the leaders at that time as did the majority?

How easy it is for us to look back through scripture with hindsight, knowing the end from the beginning! But in all fairness, each one of us is responsible in part for the suffering and death of Yeshua as He bore the collective sin of the world.

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Not one of us is innocent... no not one. Only He was innocent! Our sins were part of the bargain He made with the Father at the beginning along with the sins of those who came before us and those who will come after us.

A passage from Hebrews 10 draws a contrast between the animal sacrifices of the first covenant and Christ's sacrifice of the new and everlasting covenant. The former sacrifices could never take away sin, but when Christ died, His sacrifice was once, for all, forever removing the penalty of sin for the partakers of this covenant.

Heb 10:7-13 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come--In the volume of the book it is written of Me--To do Your will, O God.'" Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure them" (which are offered according to the law), then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest stands ministering daily and offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.

Everything that Israel's priests were doing in the temple pointed to the perfect atonement Messiah accomplished by His death on the stake. Every animal sacrifice the priests of Israel offered was like a written bank check that would be paid out upon His death on Passover, 30 AD.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

2 Cor 5:18-21 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Only God could afford the price on our heads and there was only One without blemish that could accomplish what was necessary: The Father's Son Yeshua, the only sinless human being, chose to lay down His life for the world, freeing creation from the law of sin and death.

John 10:17 "Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again.

1Peter 2:21-25 For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: "Who committed no sin, Nor was deceit

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found in His mouth"; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes you were healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Passover, 30AD becomes the pivotal day in history which started an ongoing revolution that became a game changer. This day that Yeshua freely paid the ransom for sin, justifies all who partake in this covenant established through His redemptive blood.

Rom 5:6-10 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

Mark 10:45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Ransom: is a payment demanded or paid for the release of a prisoner. To deliver especially from sin or its penalty and to free from captivity or punishment by paying a price. The word comes via old French rancon from Latin redemption meaning 'buying back.'

Christ came to this earth to do the Father's will. The Father's will was for His Son to give His life as a ransom for the sins of "His Creation." He gave everything He had to purchase back what was bound, to make it free. His selfless act of love for 'His own' is the greatest love story that will ever be.

John 6:37-40 "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. "This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day."

Rom 6:10-12 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.

Col 2:13-15 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And

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He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed powers and principalities and He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

Whether or not Yeshua's sacrifice is acknowledged by the world matters not.

He overcame the world! He overcame death! He overcame Satan!

Heb 2:14-16 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

Christ's sinless life, death, resurrection and ascension became the pinnacle on the timeline of world history denoted by BC and AD.

Only the 'Creators' could have orchestrated the many prophesies and events which designate Christ as the 'cursor' on the slide rule of history that is rapidly moving toward His return as King of Kings

Scripture to Ponder:

2 Tim1:8-10 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but has now been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Scriptures NKJV unless otherwise noted*

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