

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

TRUTH & LIES

RLJ-1511

JOHN S. TORELL

AUGUST 30, 2015

PART 6: GOD'S MESSIAH

THE MESSIAH CONCEPT

The concept of a divine being that would one day come and save the human race from its sinful state began immediately after the fall of Adam and Eve when God told them about the coming redeemer. **Genesis 3:15**

The next written account of a future redeemer is found in the first book of Enoch. Enoch was born 622 years after Adam and lived 365 years until he was taken alive to heaven. **Hebrews 11:5**

Enoch lived before the great flood and this is the revelation provided by God:

“At that hour, that Son of man was given a name, in the presence of the Lord of the Spirits, the Before Time, even before the creation of the sun and the moon, before the creation of the stars, he was given a name in the presence of the Lord of Spirits. He will become the light of the gentiles and he will become the hope of those who are sick in their hearts. All those who dwell upon the earth shall fall and worship before him; they shall glorify, bless, and sing the name of the Lord of Spirits. For this purpose he became the Chosen One; he was concealed in the presence of the Lord of the Spirits prior to the creation of the world, and for eternity.” 1 Enoch 48:1-5

Job was born about a thousand years after Enoch; he was a contemporary with Abraham and lived east of the Jordan River while Abraham lived on the west side in the land of Canaan. Job was about 14 generations from Enoch and the Bible plainly states that Job was a man of God. He was strongly anchored in his faith that God was the Creator as recorded by Adam and preserved by Enoch and later by Noah. Job obviously had a clear knowledge of the Redeemer. **Job 19:23-27**

KNOWLEDGE OF THE MESSIAH

It was common knowledge from the time of Abraham until the days of Joshua that God would bring forth a redeemer sometime in the future that would save the people from their sins. Moses and Joshua were not involved in any teaching concerning the Messiah; instead, the goal for Moses and Joshua was to bring the 12 tribes into the Promised Land and establish a homeland, which became a theocracy until the people of Israel demanded a king. King Saul was the first king and he lived some 980 years after Abraham. **1 Samuel 8:1-8; 9:27; 10:1**

Abraham was born in Ur, a city in Chaldea, which today is found in southern Iraq. Knowledge of the God existed among these people, including the knowledge of a future Redeemer, who was also known as “Shiloh.” **Genesis 49:10**



The people in Chaldea who worshiped God received a prophecy that when a certain constellation of stars lined up and one star in particular was over a certain part of the earth, it would be the sign that the Redeemer had been born.

This prophetic message had been passed from generation to generation for more than 2,400 years; surviving the Babylonian and Persian empires, even though pagan worship was mandatory under these kingdoms.

The wise men from Chaldea only knew that the Redeemer had been born someplace in Judea and they decided to travel to Jerusalem to inquire of the city in which the Messiah was supposed to be born. Their arrival caused quite an uproar in Jerusalem. King Herod became particularly upset because Jesus threatened his reign as king. The high priest and his underlings were also shocked that the news of the Messiah had been given to strangers from Chaldea and not to the Jewish leadership. **Matthew 2:1-3**

King Herod was not a godly man and realized that he needed prophetic information to find this baby. **verses 4-5**

The religious leadership told King Herod that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem and quoted from the prophet Micah, who had prophesied during the years 740-735 B.C. **Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:6**

Once the wise men had learned the Redeemer was born in Bethlehem and they had been given permission by King Herod, they set out once again on their journey to go and find the child. It is obvious that the "star" which guided them to the stable where Jesus was born was a supernatural light that led them straight to their destination. A celestial star could not have hovered over the stable; it must have been a supernatural light, just like the light that guided the children of Israel during their exodus from Egypt. **Matthew 2:7-12; Exodus 13:21-22**

The wise men did not arrive on the same day that Jesus was born like the shepherds. It took them some time to travel from Chaldea to Jerusalem. When King Herod questioned them about the birth of the king, he came to the conclusion that it had been about two years since the wise men had seen the star and that is why he issued the order to kill every male child who was two years old and younger.

JERUSALEM AND THE MESSIAH

Jerusalem did not become the capital of Israel until David conquered it some 1,000 years after Abraham. **2 Samuel 5:6-9**

The city was ancient, dating back to the time of Abraham, when it was known as Salem. Salem was the seat of Melchisedec, who was a high priest of the living God, the Creator of Adam and Eve. Abraham tithed to this high priest. **Genesis 14:18-20; Hebrews 7:1-4**

Once King David took control over the ancient city of Salem, now known as Jerusalem, God established Himself in the city and it was here that the temple was built by King Solomon.

It is interesting to note that when Abraham was told to sacrifice his son, Isaac, he traveled to Moriah, where the city of Salem was located. **Genesis 22:1-14**

At the time of King Solomon, the hill where Abraham had been was called Mount Moriah. **2 Chronicles 3:1**

Jesus was crucified on a hill called Golgotha, just outside the city of Jerusalem next to Mount Moriah. **Matthew 27:32-37**

Jerusalem is the city that God established as His own city. **Isaiah 24:23**

God used the prophet Isaiah to make known that the Messiah would die and be resurrected. **Isaiah 53:1-9**

It is in Jerusalem that the Messiah is going to reign during the thousand years kingdom. **Joel 2:30-32; 3:17; Zechariah 8:3**

Conversely, Jerusalem is also the city that the Devil has chosen to be the capital for the Antichrist. **Revelation 11:1-8**

SALVATION BEFORE THE CROSS

Could people be saved who lived before the cross? Yes, salvation for the people living before the cross was found in their faith in the future Redeemer and repentance of their sins. **Romans 4:1-8; Hebrews 11:1-7**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?