

**SPIRIT OF LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
BIBLE SCHOOL SESSION 8
JESUS CHRIST –PART 2**

THE VIRGIN BIRTH AND THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

The virgin birth of Jesus Christ is without parallel in human history. It was by the virgin birth that God became man, one perfect person but two natures: one nature being that of Almighty God, the other being that of man – without sin (Hebrews 4:15). The union of the two natures became the God-man, Jesus Christ.

1. The first hint of the virgin birth is found in Genesis 3:15. The ONE to defeat Satan was to be born of “the seed of the woman.” This is a biological miracle: there is no “seed of the woman.” From this, we are to understand that ONE was to be born of a woman without a human father (Luke 1: 31-35; Galatians 4:4)
2. Isaiah prophesied that **“a virgin would conceive and bear a son and shall call His name Immanuel (God with us)”** (Isaiah 7:14); It was fulfilled in Matt. 1:23; Luke 1:31-35.
3. Again, in Isaiah 9:6-7 Isaiah prophesied that a **“Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given”**. This means that God gave his only begotten Son, who was with Him from eternity, and the Child Jesus was born of a virgin, God gave His Son “unto us”. (John 3:16).
4. According to prophecy, He was to be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). Joseph with Mary went up to Bethlehem to be taxed, and to fulfill prophecy. (Luke 2:1-7)

In last week’s lesson we covered the necessity of a near kinsman. In the case for us to be bought back from the auction block of sin, Jesus had to be born without Adam’s nature. Only sinless blood can pay for the price of guilty blood. This could only happen without man’s seed. All born of Adam’s seed have Adam’s sin nature. The seed in Mary came from God, thus it was sinless and born of a virgin.

THE DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST

The death of Jesus Christ is mentioned more than one hundred twenty times in the New Testament and is spoken of many times by the Prophets in the Old Testament.

1. The death of Jesus Christ was vicarious (substitutionary) (Matthew 20:28). He was God’s substitute for sinners (2 Corinthians 5:21). On the cross, Christ was made sin for

the sinner. By faith in Him, the sinner is made righteous with the righteousness of God. This could be called the great exchange or transfer. Jesus takes our sin, and we take on his righteousness.

2. The death of Jesus Christ was natural (John 19:30-37). By a natural death, we mean that His spirit and soul were separated from his body.
3. The death of Jesus Christ was unnatural (Romans 6:23). By an unnatural death, we mean that since He was sinless, in that He “did no sin”, (1 Peter 2:22) “Had no sin,” (1 John 3:5) “Knew no sin”, (2 Corinthians 5:21) – before He could die, He had to be “made sin for us”. Therefore, His death was unnatural.
4. The death of Jesus Christ was preternatural (beyond what is normal or natural) (Revelation 13:8). By this we mean that the death of Jesus Christ was not an afterthought with God: it was the forethought of God. Jesus was the lamb slain before the foundation of the world.
5. The death of Jesus Christ was supernatural (John 10:17-18). Jesus said, **“No man taketh life from me.”** Then He said, **“I lay it down to myself”** (supernaturally). Then **“I have power to take it up again”** (supernaturally). This He did on the cross, and three days and three nights later, He took life up again when He arose from the dead. Only God in the form of man could die a vicarious, natural, unnatural, preternatural, and supernatural death.

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

In John 11:25 Jesus said, **“I am the resurrection and the life”**. The resurrection of Jesus Christ was the doctrine (teaching) of every disciple, the faith of every true believer, the courage of every martyr, and the theme of every sermon and the power of every evangelist.

In Acts 1:3 Luke tells us that we have **many infallible proofs** of Jesus’ resurrection. Let us look at some of these infallible proofs, according to eyewitnesses.

1. After His resurrection He appeared to Mary Magdalene first (John 20:11-18).
2. He appeared to the women returning from the sepulcher (Matthew 28:5-10).
3. He appeared to Peter (Luke 24:34).
4. He appeared on the road to Emmaus to two of His disciples (Luke 24:13-31).

5. He appeared to the apostles, but Thomas was not present (John 20:19-23).
6. He appeared again to the apostles with Thomas present (John 20:24-29).
7. He appeared to the seven by the sea of Tiberias (John 21:1-23).
8. He appeared to over five hundred brethren (1 Corinthians 15:6).
9. He was seen of James (1 Corinthians 15:7)
10. He was seen again by the eleven apostles (Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:3-12).
11. He was seen of Stephen, the first martyr (Acts 7:55).
12. He was seen of Paul on his way to Damascus (Acts 9:3-6 and 1 Cor. 15:8).

Many of these eyewitnesses died martyr's deaths because they preached the resurrection of Jesus Christ. They were glad to die for a living Christ. They had the "infallible proofs."

When Jesus was arrested in the garden of Gethsemane all of His "**disciples forsook him and fled**" (Matt. 26:56). From this time until after His resurrection, the disciples lived in fear. They did not believe that He would rise from the dead (John 20:9). Had Jesus not risen from the dead, the cross would have been the end of Christianity.

After the death of Jesus, we see his disciples dejected, discouraged, and defeated. The death of Jesus meant but one thing to them: the end! How do we account for the great change that came into their lives three days and three nights later? The only logical explanation is that they had the "infallible proofs" that He had risen from the dead and was alive forevermore. They saw Him, talked with Him, touched Him, and ate with Him.

Now look at some "infallible proofs" according to circumstantial evidence:

1. The change that came into the lives of the disciples after the resurrection – from fear to unlimited courage. They rejoiced in persecution They chose death, with faith in the resurrected Christ, rather than to deny that faith and be delivered (Hebrews 11:35)
2. The early church began to worship on the first day of the week, the day of the resurrection. It was not a law – it was spontaneous (Acts 20:7). For almost two thousand years, the church has worshipped on the first day of the week. For the Christian, every Sunday is resurrection day!

3. The early Christians went everywhere with the word of the resurrection (Acts 8:1-4).
4. The empty tomb – for if Jesus is not alive, what happened to His body? The Roman guards were paid to say, *“His disciples came by night, and stole Him away while we slept”* (Matthew 28:12-13)
 - A. The disciples lacked the courage to do that. Had the disciples stolen His body, then how do you account for the fact that they all suffered, and most of them died a martyr’s death? In the face of death, one of them would have revealed the hiding place of the “stolen body” to save his own life.
 - B. No one was ever arrested or tried for stealing the body of Jesus. It is evident that the governing officials did not believe the story of the guards.
 - C. The guard could have been put to death for sleeping while on watch.
 - D. Fourth if they were asleep, how could they have known that it was the disciples that stole the body?
 - E. Had the enemies of Jesus moved the body, they could have produced it and brought a quick end to Christianity, and that is a certainty!
5. The grave clothes found in the empty tomb are proof of the resurrection (John 20:1-10). Had a friend or foe stolen the body, they would not have removed the grave clothes, since he had been dead three days and nights. When John saw the grave clothes and recognized that they were folded the same as when they were wrapped about the body, he knew that a miracle had taken place. Jesus came out of the grave clothes and they collapsed without disturbing the folds. They were left in the empty tomb as *“infallible proof”*, and when John saw and understood, he believed that Jesus had risen from the dead!

THE ASCENSION AND SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

Acts 1:9-11 *“9) And when he had spoken these things while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight 10) And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11) Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.”*

After forty days of instructing His disciples, the risen Christ ascended up on high, and is seated at the right hand of the Father (Hebrews 10:12). Two men (angels) brought the message of His second coming to the Apostles (Acts 1:9-11). The message of the second Coming of Jesus is so important, that it is mentioned over three hundred times in the New Testament.

1. He is coming to take His Church to be with him. (1 Thess. 4:16-17 and John 14:1-6)
2. He is coming to judge the nations. (Matt. 25:31-46; Psalm 110:6; Acts 10:42; Acts 17:30-31; Revelation 19:11)
3. He is coming to save Israel. (Romans 11:25,26; Psalm 14:7)
4. He is coming to sit upon the throne of David. (Luke 1:31-33; Isaiah 9:6,7)
5. He is coming at an hour we do not expect. (Matthew 24:42-44)
6. No one knows the day or hour he will come (Matthew 24:36)
7. We are to pray that God will sanctify us and keep our whole spirit and soul and body blameless until he comes (1 Thessalonians 5:23)
8. The day that he comes will be like a thief in the night. (1 Thessalonians 5:2)
9. We are to wait patiently until his coming. (James 5:7)
10. We are to abide in him, so we have confidence when he comes and not be shameful. (1 John 2:28)
11. We are not to be ashamed of Jesus and his word, or he will be ashamed of us when he comes. (Luke 9:26)
12. All the tribes of the earth will mourn when he comes (Matthew 24:30-31)
13. He is coming soon. We are to hold fast so no one seizes our crown. (Revelation 3:11)
14. When he appears, we shall be like him. (1 John 3:2-3)
15. He is coming to bring righteous judgment to this earth. (Hebrews 1:8)

Jesus is coming again in all of his glory. He will be bringing his saints with him. It will be a glorious time for those that know him as Savior, but it will be a devastating time for those that have chosen not to believe and receive.

It is our job to proclaim his coming to a lost and dying world so they too can be free from the wages of sin which is death – eternal separation from God.