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The Physical Birth of Jesus Christ: Last Day in Paradise

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THE PHYSICAL BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

LAST DAY IN PARADISE

Heaven's angels had just ended their latest anthem of praise, prostrating themselves at the feet of that Bright and Morning Star, God's beloved Son, the supreme object of their worship. This, of course, was why they were created in the first place.

"But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: 'Let all the angels of God worship Him'" (Heb. 1:6).

Even though they had performed this worship service countless times, for some reason, this time it was different! In fact it seemed their anthem had been joined by the unknown billions of galaxies in trackless space, all giving glory, and honor, and praise to the One who had created all things! It was, as it were, the music of the spheres! Israel's great king, David, had once written of this in one of his Psalms:

*The heavens proclaim the glory of God.
The skies display his craftsmanship.
Day after day they continue to speak;
night after night they make him known.
They speak without a sound or word;
their voice is never heard.
Yet their message has gone throughout the earth,
and their words to all the world.
God has made a home in the heavens for the sun.
It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding.
It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race.
The sun rises at one end of the heavens
and follows its course to the other end.
Nothing can hide from its heat.
(Psalm 19:1-6, NLT)*

Well, whatever the reason, both cherubim (Gen. 3:24; Ezek. 10) and seraphim (Isa. 6:1-7) agreed—this had been the very finest celestial choir rendition ever! None of course could possibly know this would be the last for a while. Suddenly, all conversations ceased for Michael, heaven's chief archangel, was making his way to the front. This powerful angel had been appointed by God Himself to direct the affairs of heaven. His presence could only mean something of greatest importance would be forthcoming. He stood before them, calling for silence. Then he looked for approval from the Ancient of Days, the Son's Father (Dan. 7:9a) who

was now seated upon His blue sapphire throne (Ezek. 1:26). When permission was granted by a simple nod, Michael began:

“Holy beings of the Most High and Holy God! Listen carefully, for I am about to announce the most important event ever to occur up to this moment in the history of the universe!”

Gasps of sheer shock swept through the vast angelic assembly! The most important event? More important than the creation of the world? Of the sun, moon, and stars? Of the making of man? Or the universal flood, the call of Abraham, the giving of the Law, or the completion of the Hebrew Bible? What could possibly be more important than these things?

Sensing the reason for their shock, Michael continued . . .

“As all of you are aware, thus far the overriding theme of our worship has centered on one tremendous truth, namely, the original creation of all things beginning with light itself, followed by time, space, matter, and gravity. These creative acts would serve as a background for His supreme act, the forming of Adam!

“All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made” (John 1:3).

“And to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ” (Eph. 3:9).

“For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist” (Col. 1:16, 17).

“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds” (Heb. 1:1, 2).

“But alas, as we all know, His perfect creation has been grievously damaged by the sin of men.”

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

“For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now” (Rom. 8:22).

Michael paused at this point to allow his words to sink in. He then began the second part of his announcement which would be far more shocking than the first had been.

“So what can be done, indeed, must be done, to restore this once perfect creation back to its glorious perfect state? In the council of eternity the solution was painfully obvious – a second great work was called for – one which would deal with the horrors of sin, sorrow,

pain, and death which now tread the earth with impunity! In short, a redeemer was needed.

“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons” (Gal. 4:4, 5).

“All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world” (Rev. 13:8).

“All this now brings us to the heart of my announcement.

“Holy angels, we must at this point, think the unthinkable. The only possible candidate to restore all things is the One who originally created them! Thus, He who once was Creator must now be Redeemer!”

Without allowing the angelic assembly to fully grasp these amazing words, Michael continued:

“Here’s how it all will unfold:

- God’s dear Son, the object of our worship, the source of all life and light, must (for a while) leave us and descend to a world filled with darkness and death—Planet Earth.
- Through a virgin birth, He will take upon Himself a new nature, namely, humanity, but fully retain all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.
- In essence He will become the God-Man, functioning as a mediator between both parties!
- This will require Him to ultimately exchange His shining garments for a seamless robe. A cruel crown of thorns will replace the glorious diadem.
- Finally, He will be ridiculed, spat upon, and nailed to a cross.”

At this point all of heaven seemed to explode with cries of anguish—

“No, no, never will we allow sinful and wicked men to do these horrible things! With your permission we will send entire legions of us to rescue the beloved One and in the process utterly wipe His enemies from the face of the earth!”

“Servants of the Most High God! Listen! Having heard the grievous news, let me now share the glorious news! Our story has a happy ending. This slain Redeemer, to be first known as the Lamb of God, will rise from the dead, defeat His enemies at Armageddon, to at last become the ruling Lion of Judah!”

The scene now suddenly changes from cries of anguish to shouts of joy! But Michael was not yet finished. After maintaining order for the final time, he drew the attention of his listeners to that vast and impenetrable barrier once set up by the Ancient of Days Himself, to separate the boundaries of the elect angels from that of the evil ones.

“Listen carefully, for what you will hear will be anything but pleasant.”

Suddenly, from that dungeon-like area of darkness and doom arose the most blood-curdling oaths of blasphemies, followed by shrieks of anger and sheer frustration. Now came the sound of bitter wailings!

“We’ll never let this happen,” screamed one voice, “that pious Son of our hated enemy had better stay right where He is! Surely He must know our master is both the god of the blue planet (2 Cor. 4:4) and its prince (Jn. 14:30) also!”

Soon, to the great relief of those in the elect area, all sounds from the other side ceased.

“Fellow servants, you have just heard the reaction of those rebels upon hearing the same words from my evil counterpart, Apollyon, (Rev. 9:11) which I have given you! So, in light of this, let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter (Eccles. 12:13). We all vividly remember the first battle for truth and righteousness which was once fought in these very heavens at which time I led you to victory over the dragon and his angels (Rev. 12:7, 8).

“But soon the second and final battle will move to earth and be waged between the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent to determine the rightful ruler of this universe. Of course we know the victorious outcome has already been assured some centuries ago by the Ancient of Days Himself! (Gen. 3:15)

“But we must close, for my sources inform me Joseph and Mary are, even now, en route to Bethlehem!”

As the multitude quickly dispersed, a band of angels who had previously and personally been chosen by the Ancient of Days Himself assemble before the throne.

“Select servants and worshippers of my Son,” He began, “your assignment is one of highest importance and honor! It is to formally proclaim His birth to a group of shepherds.”

Many years later, the Holy Spirit spoke through the gospel writer the following account:

“Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!’” (Luke 2:8-14).