

Jesus Christ was Pre-existent Before His Earthly Birth

Persecution of the Churches of Christ began under Nero Caesar in 63 or 64 AD and there were 10 great persecutions and countless local ones. During one of the worst in 274 AD Aurelian Emperor of Rome declared December 25th the “birth day” of the Roman sun god Sol Invictus and declared this a holiday and feast day through-out the empire. This was during a great persecution of Christians ... so in order not to stand out Christians simply declared it a holiday too and said something like “we’ll celebrate it as Jesus’ birthday” The word Christ mas is a Catholic word added many years later. Now look at how commercial the world views Christ’s birth. This is a great example of why not to go beyond the word of God to do any-thing good or bad of our own mind. Having said this ... there is still probably more good than bad in Christmas. We will use it to reach out to the unbelieving world with the truth. The scriptures teach:

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

In the beginning does not mean there was nothing before “in the beginning”

Jesus says there was there was “glory” with the father and son “before the world was” John 17:5 and Jesus says “for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.”

I Peter 1:20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Chosen us does not mean that God has chosen us and rejected others but rather God chose a “foreordained” predestinated plan which is to adopt a people for Himself and that people is called the Church in Matthew 16:13ff or the Churches of Christ.

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

II Timothy 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called [us] with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

Genesis 1:1-3 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [*was*] upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. 3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

This preface of John carries us back to the account given in Genesis of “the Beginning” of all things, when, “In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth.” The passage declares that at that time, before creation, the Word existed, the Word was with God and separate from God, but was God, or divine Himself. What this Word is, we learn from verse 14, where it is stated that the Word became flesh and dwelt or tabernacled (as the Greek word implies) among men in the person of Christ. This deep teaching upon the divine Word, which is almost too deep for human understanding, was penned by John on account of certain false philosophies which began to creep into and to trouble the Church.

This passage then affirms: 1. That the person who afterwards was manifest as the Christ existed before creation began; 2. That the Word was present with God; 3. That the Word was divine; 4. That He was the Word; 5. That by or through Him were all things made that were made (verse 3). The first chapter of Genesis helps us to understand its meaning. God said, “Let there be light,” “Let there be a firmament,” “Let the earth bring forth,” etc., and it was done. God exhibits His creative power through the Word, and also manifests His will through the Word. Every careful reader of the Old Testament is struck with the prominence given to the Word of the Lord. When Jesus came He was “the brightness of the Father’s glory, and the express image of His person,” the manifestation of the Father, the “Word made flesh and dwelling among men.” God creates and speaks to man through the Word. As we clothe our thoughts in words, God reveals His will by the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ.

John 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

John reiterates a part of his first statement, partly for emphasis, and partly to bring out the thought that there is a real distinction between the Word and the Father. He labors to make clear two thoughts, that the Word was divine God, and yet had an individuality of His own. From before in the beginning, before creation began, He was with God.

John 1:3 And all things were made by him. And without Him: and without Him was not anything made that was made.

Having affirmed the divine and uncreated nature of the Word, John next proceeds to tell of Jesus' relation to creation. All things, the world and all it contains, and the whole universe, were made by or through Him. The account of creation in Genesis helps us to understand. It was God who said, "Let there be light," and there was light. It was when the Word was employed that the sun, moon, and stars took their place in the sky. All things that were made were spoken into being, or made through the Word. The Word was not yet named Jesus Christ, for He had not yet been manifested through His earthly birth as our Savior, nor is it certain that he was called the Son of God until He appeared upon earth as the Son of Man.

John 1:4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

Here is a grand affirmation. He is a fountain of life from whence life flows like a river. From Him life flowed in the beginning. Man can construct a statue, but man cannot breathe life into the statue into existence. The Word created the form of Adam's human body and endow it with life. And when the Word became flesh, He became a "fountain of living waters," a well springing up to eternal life. Because He had life in Himself, the dead like Lazarus heard Jesus voice and lived, and when He was slain the grave could not hold Him, but He came forth and brought to light life and immortality. For He said: "I am the resurrection and the life." "The life was the light of men." Man was created in the divine image. As the sun chases away darkness, so Jesus, the light of the mind and soul, chases away error, ignorance and superstition. The Life will overcome death and the Light will fill the redeemed world with his glory.

John 1:5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

John 1:10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

John 1:11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name.

James 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

John 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his

glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

I Corinthians 8:6 But to us [*there is but*] one God, the Father, of whom [*are*] all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom [*are*] all things, and we by him

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all [*men*] see what [*is*] the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

Colossians 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether [*they be*] thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

Hebrews 1:1-13 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

“Sundry times” means “many a part”

“divers manners” means “many harmonious forms of speech” cf:

Isaiah 28:9-10 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? [*them that are*] weaned from the milk, [*and*] drawn from the breast. 10 For precept [*must be*] upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, [*and*] there a little

Hebrews 1:2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by [*his*] Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Hebrews 1:3 Who being the brightness of [*his*] glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Hebrews 1:4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

Hebrews 1:5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? ... “

Psalms 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou [*art*] my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

Hebrews 1:5 "... And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?

II Samuel 7:14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men:

Hebrews 1:6 And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.

Luke 2:13-14 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Hebrews 1:7 And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

Psalm 104:4 Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:

Hebrews 1:8 But unto the Son [he saith], Thy throne, O God, [is] for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness [is] the sceptre of thy kingdom.

Psalm 45:1 My heart is inditing a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: my tongue [*is*] the pen of a ready writer.

Psalm 45:2 Thou art fairer than the children of men: grace is poured into thy lips: therefore God hath blessed thee for ever.

Psalm 45:6 Thy throne, O God, [*is*] for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom [*is*] a right sceptre.

Psalm 45:7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness: therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Hebrews 1:9 Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, [even] thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

Acts 10:38-40 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. 39 And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: 40 Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly 41 Not to all the

people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, [*even*] to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

Hebrews 1:10 And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:

Hebrews 1:11 They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment;

Hebrews 1:12 And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

Hebrews 1:13 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Psalms 110:1 A Psalm of David. The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

Psalms 110:4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou [*art*] a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Let's go back to in the beginning.

After Adam and Eve sinned if anything was to be done in the way of reconciliation God had to make the first move because there was no excess morality in the world.

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Putting off the payment of the debt of sin required the death of an innocent victim.

Genesis 3:21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

Galatians 3:16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

Galatians 4:4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

Matthew 1:18-23 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just [*man*], and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. 22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

“Virgin”, Hebrew word *al-maw*”, a lass, as veiled or private, a damsel, maid. Virgin from *aw-iam*’, kept out of sight. Much is made of the use of this word by the non-believing “liberal modernists” instead of *beth-oo-law*’, which is a feminine past participle of an unused root word meaning to separate a virgin from her privacy, to deflower a bride, maid, virgin.

They claim Matthew made a mistake that the word used by Isaiah *al-maw* does not mean virgin but they never ask themselves if God has ever made that mistake before ... has God ever described a “virgin” as “*al-maw*” before?

Genesis 24:16 And the damsel [was] very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

Genesis 24:43 Behold, I stand by the well of water; and it shall come to pass, that when the virgin cometh forth to draw [water], and I say to her, Give me, I pray thee, a little water of thy pitcher to drink;

However, Mary was kept a virgin until her delivery not her impregnation which would better be described by a prime root word showing continuous action of being a virgin than a past tense word.

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

**Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus is to me
Counselor, Prince of Peace, Mighty God is He
Saving me, Keeping me, from my sin and shame
Wonderful is my redeemer, Praise His name.**

The very same “Seed” Promise of a coming “Child” Who was to be the Messiah was also made to Seth, Gen. 4:25, Noah 9:9, Abraham 15:3ff & 22, Isaac Gen 26 & Jacob in Gen 28, whose name was changed to Israel Gen 35. Then:

The Promise of a redeemer was through tribe of Judah

Genesis 49:10-11 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him [*shall*] the gathering of the people [*be*]. 11 Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes:

The “Seed” Promise is to come through the house of David in

II Samuel 7:12 And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever. 14 I will be his father, and he shall be my son ...

He is to be a King

Matthew 2:1-2 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,² Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

The Star prophecy

Numbers 24:13-19 If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the commandment of the LORD, to do [*either*] good or bad of mine own mind; [*but*] what the LORD saith, that will I speak? 14 And now, behold, I go unto my people: come [*therefore, and*] I will advertise thee what this people shall do to thy people in the latter days. 15 And he took up his parable, and said, Balaam the son of Beor hath said, and the man whose eyes are open hath said:

16 He hath said, which heard the words of God, and knew the knowledge of the most High, [*which*] saw the vision of the Almighty, falling [*into a trance*], but having his eyes open: 17 I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth. 18 And Edom shall be a possession, Seir also shall be a possession for his enemies; and Israel shall do valiantly. 19 Out of Jacob shall come he that shall have dominion, and shall destroy him that remaineth of the city.

Matthew 2: 3-6 When Herod the king had heard [*these things*], he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. 5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, 6 And thou Bethlehem, [*in*] the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, [*though*] thou be little among the thousands of Judah, [*yeſ*] out of thee shall he come forth unto me [*that is*] to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth [*have been*] from of old, from everlasting

Micah 5:1 Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: he hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek

Matthew 2: 7-11 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found [*him*], bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. 9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. 11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

Psalms 72:10-11 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents: the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts. 11 Yea, all kings shall fall down before him: all nations shall serve him.

Matthew 2:12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way

Remember Christ is to be a King

Jeremiah 33:15-17 In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days shall Judah be saved, and Jerusalem shall dwell safely: and this [*is the name*] wherewith she shall be called, The LORD our righteousness. 17 For thus saith the LORD; David shall never want a man to sit upon the throne of the house of Israel;

Acts 2:29-33 Men [*and*] brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. 30 Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne;

Psalm 132:11 The LORD hath sworn [*in*] truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

Acts 2:31 He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. 32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. 33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

The KJV does not translate the article "the" before faith in this verse. Paul in this section is using "the faith" (Greek *tees-pistos*) in the sense of all of the teaching composing historical N.T. Christianity. Macknight translated this verse correctly thus: "For ye are all sons of God through the faith published by Christ Jesus." That this meaning is mandatory is clear enough from the whole context. As Cole remarked with reference to theology itself, "it is nothing more than ordinary rules of grammar and logic applied to the text of Scripture." It has long been apparent that it is not a knowledge of the Greek, but of the grammar, that leads to an accurate understanding of the New Testament.

Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Baptized into Christ ... is here used in exactly the same manner that "the Faith" was in the preceding verse, that is, as a synecdoche for the primary steps of accepting the gospel and becoming a Christian; and by the use of it, Paul testified

to the essentiality of it. It violates the rules of grammar to use in such a synecdoche any non-vital, unnecessary or unessential part to stand for the whole. Yet there is a difference between "faith" and "baptism," for here it is declared that people are baptized "into" Christ, a declaration nowhere existing in the New Testament with regard to "faith."

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Every possible kind of racial, economic and sex distinction finds its great equalizer "in Christ." The bond of true love and fellowship in the Lord is strong enough to overcome all outward differences among God's children.

Galatians 3:29 And if ye [*be*] Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

This is not merely a continuation of the argument Paul has been making, but it is continued into Galatians 4. The true seed of Abraham (in the plural sense) are all of those who, believing the gospel, have been baptized into Christ, comprising in our corporate totality the seed singular which is Christ. This enabled the Gentiles to be accounted the true seed of Abraham, bypassing the Law of Moses altogether, thus inheriting through the promise to Abraham cf: Genesis 12:1-3;

What promise?

Genesis 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Sources: KJV, theWord.com, B.W. Johnson, J.W. McGarvey, & Coffman's Commentaries