

Lighthouse Bible Church

December 8th, 2013

Genesis 2: 8 – 9, 15 – 17, 3: 1 - 6 *Scripture Reading: Galatians 3: 10 – 18*
‘The Promised Seed of the Virgin Birth’

We are going to take a break from the book of John for a few weeks as we move closer to the celebration of Christmas and the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

What I would like to look at this morning is the history of the promised Seed that starts out in Genesis and leads all the way to Jesus and His birth. This is called the ‘Promised Seed’ because this Seed was in the plan of God from the beginning of time and that would be fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

If you think about it, **Revelation 13: 8** says **the Lamb, Jesus Christ, was slain from the foundation of the world.** If His death was predetermined before the foundation of the world, then His birth must have also been pre planned by God as well.

So let’s trace the history of this Seed, and in order to do that we need to see why this Seed was promised in the first place. In **Isaiah 43: 7** it says **everyone who is called by My name whom I have created for My glory, I have formed him yes I have made him.** **Revelation 4: 11** says **You are worthy O Lord to receive glory and honor and power for You created all things and by Your will they exist and were created.**

Well, something happened, when the first man and woman, who were created in the image of God and blessed by God in **Genesis 1: 26 – 28**, did not glorify God, as a matter of fact they rebelled against Him. You know the story, Eve was deceived by the Devil and Adam willingly disobeyed the command of God not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

God's punishment for their disobedience and sin was told to them in **Genesis 2: 17** when God said **for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.** Their immediate death was a *spiritual death* and separation from God because of their sin, their eventual death would be a *physical death* because that would be the wages of their sin of disobedience and their *eternal death* would be a separation from God forever in the lake of fire, for the punishment of their sins, if their sins are never forgiven.

So at that point in creation, the whole human race would be brought under the curse and consequences of that first sin. **Romans 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 have sinned.** **Psalm 58: 3** says **we are estranged from the womb and go astray the minute we are born.** And the reason is, **Isaiah 59: 2** says **our sin has separated us from our God and our sins have hidden His face from us.**

Just as quickly as the devil caused man to fall into sin, God comes along with a plan to defeat the devil and undo the curse of sin and death and it would be done through the promised seed and in this case it starts with the promised seed of a woman.

In **Genesis 3: 15** where God is cursing the devil for his part in the fall, it says **I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her Seed. He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise His heel.** So who is this seed by which God will defeat the devil and redeem and restore mankind to a relationship with Himself?

Well, Eve thinking this was a near prophecy about this seed, thought that Abel was the promised seed but Cain killed him **Genesis 4: 8** says. Then she thought it may have been Seth. In **Genesis 4: 25** it says **and Adam knew his wife again and she bore a son and named him Seth, for God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.** But it wasn't him either.

Then Lamech, the father of Noah, thought that Noah would be the promised seed. In **Genesis 5: 28 – 29** it says **Lamech lived one hundred and eighty two years and had a son and he called his named Noah saying ‘this one will comfort us concerning our work and the toil of our hands because of the ground which the lord had cursed.** This is the one who will reverse the curse and of course he was not because the ground that was cursed would be destroyed by a flood **Genesis 6: 17** said. God made a covenant with Noah that He would not flood the earth again, but Noah was not that promised seed.

Then later in Genesis 11 you have the account of the Tower of Babel where everyone was originally of one language and rather than filling the earth, they built a city in the land of Shinar as a monument to their own abilities and ingenuity.

Well, **Genesis 11: 7** says that God **confused their language that they may not understand one another’s speech.** And now, they could not even recognize the seed if He did come.

Next, God made a covenant with a man named Abraham that He called out of UR of the Chaldes and He told him in **Genesis 12: 3** that **I will bless those who bless you and I will curse him who curses you and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.** Then that blessing will be carried on from you to your promised child Isaac.

Then in Genesis Chapter 22 God tested Abraham by telling him in **Verse 2** to **take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering.**

Abraham obeys God and God spares his son and provides a ram caught in a thicket as the burnt offering and Abraham called the name of the place 'the Lord will provide'.

Then God tells Abraham this in **Genesis 22: 18** **in your SEED all the nations of the earth shall be blessed because you have obeyed My voice.** This promised seed we know was fulfilled in Jesus because **Galatians 3: 16** says **now to Abraham and his Seed were the promised made. He does not say and to seeds as of many but as of one and to your Seed who is Christ.** So the seed of the woman will now go through one man, Abraham, and one nation, Israel.

Then in **1st Samuel 16: 12 – 13** a young man named David is anointed king of Israel and then in **2nd Samuel 7: 12** God tells David **when your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your SEED after you who will come from your body and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.** So now the seed comes from a woman, from the seed of Abraham from the nation of Israel and now through the son of David.

Well, over the years of the O.T. prophets there was that lingering promise of the seed that would come but no one fulfilled it. Eventually the nation of Israel split into two tribes, the northern and southern tribes and were eventually taken captive and attacked by the Assyrians and Babylonians.

They eventually came back to their own country and fell into the same pagan practices and idolatry and rebellion and evil against God and there appears to be no evidence of the promised seed coming. Then in the final book of the Old Testament, the book of Malachi God says this in Malachi 3: 1

Malachi 3: 1 behold I send My messenger and he will prepare the way before Me and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple even the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight; behold He is coming says the Lord of hosts. Then, for 400 years there is silence from God; from Malachi to Matthew there is no promised seed arising anywhere.

Then we see the promised seed fulfilling all of the covenants and promises God made through Abraham, through David, to the nation of Israel coming to pass in the birth, life and death of the promised seed, Jesus Christ.

Look at **Luke 1: 54 – 55** to **Luke 1: 69 – 73** to **Luke 1: 31 – 33**

In **Matthew 1: 1** it says **the book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David the Son of Abraham.**

So we see that Jesus is the only possible promised seed that can fulfill all the covenants that are written from Genesis 3: 15 to the gospel of Luke about one who can conquer Satan and redeem mankind from the curse.

Isn't that what **Matthew 1: 21** says? **And she will bring forth a Son and you shall call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins.**

Isn't that what **Hebrews 2: 14** says? **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...**

2nd Timothy 1: 10 says that Jesus Christ **has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel...**

By the way, Jesus could not have been the promised seed if He was not Virgin Born and that takes us all the way back to Genesis 3: 15. God said ‘I will put enmity between you, Satan, and the woman, Eve, and between your seed and her seed. The seed, in scripture is always in the man, not the woman except here and the reason is, is there is no man involved in the birth of Jesus.

This virgin birth had even been prophesied by Isaiah in **Isaiah 7: 14** **therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign; behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son and shall call His name Immanuel.** That was fulfilled in **Matthew 1: 23** where this same verse from Isaiah is quoted and applied to Mary and the birth of Jesus.

In **Luke 1: 27** it says the **angel Gabriel was sent to a VIRGIN betrothed to a man named Joseph.** And even Mary herself says in **Luke 1: 34** **how can this be since I do not know a man?** How can I have this baby since I have never had a sexual relation with a man?

So why did Jesus have to be virgin born? Several reasons

#1: If he had been born to two human parents then He would have not been sinless. The sin nature would have passed through Joseph and Mary to Jesus if He had not been virgin born. He had to be sinless in order to die for us **Hebrews 7: 27** and offer Himself as the perfect acceptable sacrifice to God, and He was. **1st Peter 1: 18 – 19** says that we were **redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus as a lamb without spot or blemish.** Jesus had a human mother and was able to be fully human and able to identify with all humanity on a human level, yet He was sinless because the Holy Spirit of God was involved.

- #2: Because the scriptures had to be fulfilled perfectly in the birth of Jesus and part of that prophecy was that He would be virgin born as Isaiah 7: 14 said He would be. If not, the word would not be true and it challenges the authority of scripture.
- #3: God controls the natural and supernatural realm of this world, including natural and supernatural births. Remember **Genesis 18: 11** said that **Sarah was past the age of childbearing** and the Lord said to Abraham in **Verse 14 ‘is anything to hard for the Lord?’** Remember Hanna in **1st Samuel 1: 5** where it says she could have no children because **the Lord had closed her womb** and then at the right time in **Verse 20** Hanna conceived a bore a son she named Eli. Remember Zechariah and Elizabeth in **Luke 1: 18** when they were told they would have a child and Zechariah said **how shall this be for I am an old man and my wife is well advanced in years.**
If God was able to created everything in 6 days, if He could flood the earth, if He could make water come out of a rock, an ax head float, part the red sea and on and on, then a virgin conception is nothing for Him.
- #4: Jesus had to be born of a virgin because if Joseph was His birth father, Jesus would have been cursed and unable to inherit the throne of David. Look at **Matthew 1: 11 – 12, 16** *Read.* Jesus was in the lineage of David through Joseph and in that lineage was a man named Jeconiah. In **Jeremiah 22: 30** it says this **thus says the Lord; write this man down as childless a man who shall not prosper in his days for none of his descendants shall prosper sitting on the throne of David and ruling anymore in Judah.**
In **Luke 1: 32** it says **Jesus will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.**
- #5: Jesus had to be virgin born to be God in human form to maintain the integrity of the trinity. Jesus isn't a God or another God but the only God, God the Son. In the trinity you have God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all three are God all 3 are One. In **Deuteronomy 6: 4** it says **hear o Israel the Lord our God the Lord is One.**

James 2: 19: says **you believe in One God you do well.** And yet In **Genesis 1: 1** it says **in the beginning God** and the word is *Eloheim* which is plural. In **Genesis 1: 26** God said **let US make man in OUR image and according to OUR likeness.**

You have the whole trinity in **Matthew 3: 17** Jesus being baptized, the Father saying this is My beloved Son and the Holy Spirit of God descending on Him like a dove.

In **2nd Corinthians 13: 14** it says **the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

The great commission is to go into all the world and make disciples and baptize them in the name, (singular), of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If Jesus were born of a human man and woman He could not be a part of the trinity.

In **Isaiah 43: 11** God says **I, even I, am the Lord and besides Me there is no savior.** Yet in **Matthew 1: 21** it says **and she shall bring forth a Son and you shall call His name Jesus for He will save His people from their sins.**

In **Isaiah 43: 14** it says **Thus says the Lord God, your Redeemer** and in **Galatians 3: 13** it says **Christ has redeemed us...** that demands a virgin birth and shows that Jesus is God and that God became a man entering the human world through a virgin conception/birth at the time we call Christmas.

In **Galatians 4: 4 - 5** says **when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman (not a man and a woman) born under the law; to redeem those who were under the law that we might receive the adoption as sons.**

When it was God's perfect time in human history, HE sent for His Son to be virgin born, born of a woman, not a woman and a man.

He was born under the law and because He is God and sinless He kept the law of God perfectly; and no one else could. So what was the purpose of Jesus being virgin born at the right time in human history. Verse 5 says:

To redeem those who were under the law that we might receive the adoption as sons. Jesus came to redeem us from the law and our sins and to make us sons of the Father.

You and I were **under the law** before we came to Christ and because we were under the law we were under the curse of the law because you and I could not keep the law that God required us too and that is called sin and the Bible says the wages of sin is ... death.

The first time you **lied** or **lusted** or took the Lord's **name in vain** or **disobeyed** your **parents** or got **angry** with someone, you violated God's law, which is called sin, and you must pay the consequences of your sin. You and I and every human being are called to keep God's law and when we break it, even 1 time, we come under the curse and judgment and wrath of God.

There is no hope for us, because we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, unless someone redeems us, unless someone pays the price, the wages for our sin. The virgin born Son of God who lived a sinless life, who became a man and was obedient to the point of death on the cross, paid our fine, He paid the penalty for our sin by taking our punishment and dying in our place, and redeemed us from the curse of the law, that no one else could.

Jesus, the virgin born Son of God, took all of the wrath of God the Father upon Himself, took all the judgment our sin deserves upon Himself by dying on the cross and He redeems us, rescues us from that judgment. When you put your faith and trust in Jesus you are redeemed from under the law because He paid the penalty.

And when you by faith receive Jesus, you receive His righteousness as if you have never sinned before.

When you are born again you are adopted into God's family as one of His children, and that is only possible if God became a man to open the way and it was only possible by the virgin birth. That is why this doctrine is so important to the Christian faith and what we really celebrated this time of the year.

Jesus, God the Son, leaving heaven and coming to earth through the process of a virgin birth to be both God and man and holy and without sin becomes the perfect sacrifice for our sins because 'He who knew no sin became sin for us that we might become the righteousness of God in Him' **2nd Corinthians 5: 21** say.

Gospel and close

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Introduction:

The Plan of God from eternity past

Revelation 13: 8, Isaiah 43: 7, Revelation 4: 11

The Purpose of the Promised Seed

Genesis 1: 26 – 28, 2: 17, Romans 5: 12

Psalms 58: 3, Isaiah 59: 2

The Promised Seed prophesied

Genesis 3: 15

The Promised Seed traced

Genesis 4: 8, 4: 25, 5: 28 – 29, 6: 17, 11: 7, 12: 3, 22: 2,18

Galatians 3: 16, 1st Samuel 16: 12 – 13, 2nd Samuel 7: 12

Malachi 3: 1

The Promised Seed Revealed

Luke 1: 69 – 73, 54 – 55, 31-33, Matthew 1: 1, 21

Hebrews 2: 14, 2nd Timothy 1: 10

The Promised Seed through a Virgin Birth

Isaiah 7: 14, Matthew 1: 23, Luke 1: 27, 34, Hebrews 7: 27

1st Peter 1: 18 – 19, Genesis 18: 11, 14, 1st Samuel 1: 5, 20

Luke 1: 18, Matthew 1: 11 – 12, 16, 3: 17, Jeremiah 22: 30

Luke 1: 32, Deuteronomy 6: 4, James 2: 19, Genesis 1: 1

Genesis 1: 26, 2nd Corinthians 13: 14, Isaiah 43: 11,14

Matthew 1: 21, Galatians 3: 13, 4: 4 – 5

2nd Corinthians 5: 21

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1st Peter 1: 18 – 19, Genesis 18: 11, 14, 1st Samuel 1: 5, 20

Luke 1: 18, Matthew 1: 11 – 12, 16, 3: 17, Jeremiah 22: 30

Luke 1: 32, Deuteronomy 6: 4, James 2: 19, Genesis 1: 1

Genesis 1: 26, 2nd Corinthians 13: 14, Isaiah 43: 11,14

Matthew 1: 21, Galatians 3: 13, 4: 4 – 5

2nd Corinthians 5: 21