

MEDITATIONS ON THE TRUE CHRISTIAN LIFE

...."This book of the law [the Word of God] shall not depart from [always be in] your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful [take heed] to do according to all that is written in it; for THEN you will make your way prosperous, and THEN you will have success".... Joshua 1:8 NASB

September 30th

THE INCARNATION

[part 3 of 3]

The Legal Side

A legal Substitution would be impossible without an incarnation. Deity must assume the liability of the Fall of humanity. God must have known that man would Fall when He created him. Man was created in the face of that fact. Universal humanity has demanded that Deity assume the liability for that Fall. A Substitute must be provided, actually taking man's place, suffering what humanity should suffer, meeting every claim of Justice in behalf of Fallen man. Only then could God be vindicated. An angel could not fulfill these demands. No man could be the Substitute. Only God Himself could fulfill these requirements. An Incarnation of Deity and humanity was demanded. The account of the Incarnation is found in the Gospel of Luke. It tells of the Most High overshadowing the Virgin Mary, and she conceived in her womb that Holy Thing. You see, Jesus did not partake of the mother's nature, she simply clothed Him with sinless flesh.

Had He been conceived of the seed of Joseph, His body would have been mortal. Because He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, He possessed a body such as Adam had in the Garden before the Fall.

The Incarnation proves the pre-existence of the Man Jesus. Phil. 2:6: "Who, existing in the form of God counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men. And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself becoming obedient even unto death, yea the death of the cross in John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him and

without him was not anything made that was made."

There could not have been an Incarnation had not Jesus had a pre-existence as Deity. In the English it is "Word"; in the Greek it is "Logos". "In the beginning was the Logos, and the Logos was with God and the Logos was God." There could be no Incarnation unless there was a perfect unity of Deity and humanity.

This occurred in the Man Jesus. In the eyes of Sense Knowledge men it is a miracle. In the eyes of God's Knowledge it is normal. God's Knowledge is Spiritual; man's knowledge is of the Senses. I Cor. 2:14: "For the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit, for they are foolishness unto him, and he cannot know them, for they are spiritually revealed." I told you the Incarnation was the desire of Natural Man. All primitive people have believed in an Incarnation. To me, the Incarnation was God breaking into the Sense Realm, manifesting Himself in the flesh.

He made a Covenant with Abraham, now He is keeping that Covenant. God actually thrust Himself upon the Jewish Nation, and especially upon the High Priesthood. They did not realize that the God to Whom they had been offering sacrifices was at last among them. He had come into their midst incognito. He only revealed Himself to them through His miracles and intense love for humanity. They could not recognize Him. Satan had blinded the eyes of Israel, their Jehovah was among them, yet they did not know Him. (Read the "Father and His Family" for a more complete discussion of this subject.)

Only a visitor from Heaven could tell you what the earth walk of the Man of Galilee meant to men. Jehovah, of the Old Covenant made with Abraham, had suddenly appeared in the form of a Man. Everybody thought that they knew Him as the son of Joseph and Mary. He was the unknown. He came unto those who were His own and they failed to penetrate through Love's disguise. He went about doing Love deeds in Love's way. He had a herald, John the Baptist, who pointed to Him and said, "Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world." No one knew that John was heralding "The King of the Jews," their Jehovah who had come to His own people Israel. As one reads the four Gospels he is convinced of a restraint upon each writer. All of them knew who this Jesus was. Luke had found Christ through Paul's ministry.

He knew the Pauline Revelation, but there is not one sentence in the writings of Luke that intimates this fact.

Mark had been Paul's companion and the same thing is true in his writings. They only wrote what the Spirit gave them. In John's Gospel there are but two suggestions of the Pauline Revelation, and yet John must have known that Revelation. It thrills one when you think of the Divine restraint that was put upon every one of these men, who were to tell the story of The Man.