



## *Introduction: When Jesus Walked Upon the Earth*

Believing in God and having faith can be the greatest gift in life. Jesus has always been the most influential man to walk on earth. Foremost, he was not only a man but the son of man through God, his Father.

When we take the time to enjoy nature, there is nothing more beautiful than all the creativity that goes into the various imaginable life forms. This is no coincidence and is sure to be proof of an intelligence beyond our understanding. The vastness of the oceans and the height of the mountains are just as breathtaking as the beauty in the fall with the colored leaves or the rich green in the spring. Each spring brings hope that what had seemed lifeless now has the promise of new energy and a new life. All of this and more showed that God made this earth for man, and the beauty God instilled through his creation reflected His love for humankind.

Our planet is a miracle that took millions of years to become a perfect place for man: a small moon that is exactly right for Earth; the Earth at just the right distance from the sun; the planets in our immediate solar system that act as a defense against meteorites. All of this increases the assurance of sustaining life on Earth.

When we look around, we are reminded that all we see does not just happen to be; nothing on such a grand scale is by chance. God is three in one, and the creator of all that we see knows each of us by our

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name. God knows you and me personally. Yes, there is logic and reasoning behind creation to make sense of what we perceive, but we're just beginning to realize how little we know.

Consider string theory in physics. At the subatomic level, vibration produces energy, and everything has an energy field that will eventually be in the spiritual realm. Another principle that is just now being observed but not fully understood is "The Observer Effect." It has been found that observations of a conscious being will change the physical reality of light at the subatomic level.

So, by God's power, word, and observation, the world was created.

We are all meant to see His glory, but our choices determine our justification. Each of us brings different social backgrounds, education, personalities, and character flaws. God uses each person's differences to display his will according to his plan.

This book is about a man who was both human and God. This factual story begins with an older couple, whom God had promised they would conceive a male child into the world, and he would have significant

importance for the coming Messiah. This conception of birth occurred several months before a young virgin girl would conceive and soon give birth to the redeemer of the world.

In history, women were treated mostly as property and had a status just above slaves. But this story is about how her son changed man's thinking and principles. Jesus' life is written in this book, mainly in the order in which it occurred and through the eyes of his disciples who followed him, learned from him, and, in turn, found deep unconditional love in the process.

The disciples were ordinary men with character flaws, but they were seeking the prophesied messiah who would free them from the oppression of the Roman Empire. However, that was not God's plan. Jesus came only to free them of their sins in the body of a man free of sin and with a spirit of God.

The four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—were written to testify of events that transpired during the three years of Jesus' ministry. We could go back to the beginning because there was a time when a man (Adam) sinned, and our problems began. But the life of Jesus is best understood when we look at these events in the order in which they occurred and in the frame of God's time.

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### *How Could God Be Described?*

***“By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.”***

**Hebrews 11:3 NIV**

This story is about the life of Jesus—a story that inspires you and brings you to know the only One who is always by your side, here and beyond. His name is powerful enough to have influenced humankind since the beginning, and He does this with pure love and an interest in human affairs.

Let's take a moment to pause and question the quality of our faith. Ask yourself, how would you rate the sincerity of your relationship with God? It is so important to remember that we have one brief life, and our sincerity in our relationship with our creator is needed more today than ever before. We must be sincere in our faith. Faith is necessary if our belief in God is to grow spiritually and manifest in our manner and actions.

Since our beliefs can fluctuate, causing us to take the wrong direction, we cannot rely upon our senses or capabilities to determine what is real—this may be our initial mistake. Although we have never seen God, a recent Gallup poll showed that 89 percent of Americans do believe in God to various degrees.

We know that the infinite God has influenced humankind since the dust was formed, and yet, we have never seen the image of God. There is a knowing deep within us that our eyes have never seen, nor have we ever touched, but it permeates within our soul.

If we try to imagine God, even then, our language would be insufficient. If the answer were available, we would be fitting God into our way of thinking, resulting in restraints of who He is and limiting the

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vastness of His being. What we do know is that God is a spirit, and He can exist in multiple locations. An example might be that while watching over His followers on Earth, He could also be in another galaxy. Since God is spirit, He is not made of matter and, therefore, has no physical limitations. Jesus said:

***<sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and<sup>[a]</sup> is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.***

**John 1:17–18 NIV**

When the earth was formed at the beginning of creation, Jesus was there as well as the Holy Spirit.

***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.***

**Colossians 1:16 NIV**

However, it would take many thousands of years before we would see God in the form of a man born in the flesh but still holy. The Messiah would remove the barrier between God, the Father, and us. Jesus has the capability to take away our sins and become the gate that leads to our heavenly home.

Still, we have heard from the many prophecies that a Messiah would come and deliver us from all evil. Jesus or the Messiah is mentioned in the Old Testament 925 times, but this number can vary according to the biblical translation. There are about fifty versions of the English Bible, and in place of the name Messiah or Jesus, it might refer to our savior in other metaphors.

Isaiah, a prophet who wrote of the Messiah many times, said:

***But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.***

**Isaiah 53:5**

The price paid for our sins came through the agony Jesus endured. He was God incarnate, yet when Jesus was born, he humbled himself to do his Father's will by taking on human form.

What better way to teach us the ways of the Father than by appearing to be human with one exception? He was born without sin, living his life accordingly and having authority and power over all the elements of the earth.

Malachi was the last prophet to write about the time of Jesus, but he also spoke of John the Baptist:

***See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.***

**Malachi 3:1 NIV**

Malachi wrote of these events somewhere around 400 years before they occurred, and during that time, all scribing ceased, and the heavens went silent.

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Just as our life has a beginning and an end, we will look at our Lord's life and the sequence of events as they occur. It would have been wonderful to sit at His feet and listen to His words of wisdom and truth. We will follow his earthly journey as his ministry begins.

Blessed is His name that looks upon us through loving eyes.



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### *Two Divine Births*

Zechariah, a priest, had just been chosen by selection to go into the temple and burn incense for the sins of the people in the Jewish nation. For this was pleasing to God.

While inside the temple, the angel Gabriel appeared and spoke to Zechariah, telling him that his wife Elizabeth would soon give birth to a son. His name was to be John, meaning “the Lord is gracious,” and he would be a godly man with Elijah’s power to prepare the people for the coming of the Messiah.

***“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty.***

***<sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. <sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver.***

#### **Malachi 3:1–3 NIV**

Elizabeth and Zechariah had waited their entire life for a child and were now old and beyond childbearing age. However, nothing is impossible with God, and so it came to pass as God had spoken. When Elizabeth was about 5 to 6 months with a child, the angel appeared to a young woman in Nazareth. That woman’s name was Mary, a virgin, and she was betrothed to a man named Joseph. Now imagine that Zechariah, a priest, had been afraid at the sight of Gabriel. Wouldn’t Mary have felt the same apprehension? Not only by the sight of the angel but also by the message that he delivered. Angels have been described as quite tall with wings and the glory of God surrounding them. They are spirits but have also appeared as ordinary men when necessary.

Surely the message delivered by the angel must have been troublesome. First, she had not been with a man, and what would she tell her parents and Joseph? She also knew of the consequences of society and the possibility of being stoned according to the Mosaic Law. She could lose all and be labeled a harlot. But her answer was, “*May it be to me as you have said.*” This revealed much about her faith in God. It



would be God's will in her heart despite man's law. With Mary's willingness, the angel told her the following:

***The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you. So, the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.***

**Luke 1:35 NIV**

It was shortly thereafter that Mary learned of Elizabeth's pregnancy and quickly decided to make the long trip from Nazareth to Judea to visit her relative. Upon arriving and greeting Elizabeth, something extraordinary happened. Although John was still unborn, he knew that the Son of God was near and leaped in the womb joyfully: