

The Logos Bible Study
The Book of Romans
Study Guide and Questions
For
The Christmas Podcast

Alright gang. For the first part of these notes I thought that I would include the questions that we talked about during the podcast. I will also include the references that we talked about during the study. I hope that you enjoy the podcast and have a Merry Christmas.

Question Group Number 1:

Okay, this one has always racked my brain: In the Bible, when we read "the angel of the Lord" I've always heard that it means Jesus. (Genesis 16:7-11 with Hagar and Ishmael being exiled, Genesis 22:11 with Abraham willing to sacrifice Isaac, Exodus 3:2 with Moses and the burning bush, Numbers 22:22-35 with Balaam and his donkey, Judges 6:11-22 with Gideon at the winepress, Judges 13:3-21 announcing the coming birth of Samson, and others.) But we also see the phrase "the angel of the Lord" during Mary's pregnancy (Matthew 1:20 and 24) and after Christ's birth (Luke 2:9 and Matthew 2:13 and 19). So how did that work? It's like Christ incarnate was actually in two places at once. Is the New Testament phrase "the angel of the Lord" interpreted differently?

-During the podcast I made the statement that angels do not allow themselves to be worshipped.

-The references for that were Revelation 19:9-10; 22:8-9. There are other references found in the Bible.

-Exodus 3:2 with Moses and the burning bush

-During this part of the podcast I mentioned that you should look at the "I AM" statements that Jesus used during His earthly ministry. Here are the references. John 6:35; 8:12; 10:7, 9; 10:11, 14; 11:25; 14:6; 15: 1, 5.

-Joshua also sees the Lord Jesus in the Old Testament in Joshua 5:13-15.

-Judges 13:3-21 announcing the coming birth of Samson

-The reason I wanted to hit this one is because of verses 17-18. He says His name is wonderful, and that should spin you off as a Bible student to Isaiah 9:6, which is relevant to our Christmas story. Here in both verses He is called wonderful.

-I thought we better look at the attributes of God.

-God is omniscient-perfect knowledge of everything

-God is omnipresent-present everywhere at the same time

-God is omnipotent-can do everything that is in harmony with His nature and perfection.

-Okay so while Jesus was on the earth I want to look at a few examples.

-Omniscience-Luke 2:52; Mark 13:32 notice that there were things that He didn't know at that time.

-Omnipresent-He could only be in one place at a time.

-Omnipotent-While Jesus was on the earth He worked through the power of the Holy Spirit (Luke 4)

-Philippians 2:6-11-This passage is called the Kenosis, and it talks about how Jesus Christ emptied Himself.

Question Group Number 2

Ok I have a few question, we see in manger scenes 3 wise men. Were there only 3 wise men? Didn't they visit later than his birth? Also what is the meaning of their gifts? Also can we explore the star they followed?

-Let's look at the gifts.

-Gold-The gold speaks of His deity and kingship

-Frankincense-The frankincense speaks of His priestly duties. It was used in the priestly ceremonial practices. (Lev. 2:2, 15-16)

-Myrrh-They myrrh speaks of His death. When it was crushed it gave off an aroma that used for burial spices. (John 19:39)

-Turn to Isaiah 60:6. This chapter speaks of His Second Coming when He sets up His earthly kingdom. Look at the gifts they give Him then. Gold and frankincense, but no myrrh. Why? Because His death is behind Him at that point.

Question Group Number 3

Also the angels appeared to the shepherds, why didn't they appear to the town? Is there a specific reason they appeared to the shepherds?

Question Group Number 4

Since Joseph and Mary went back to Bethlehem, his hometown, I'm sure that there were relatives there, why didn't any of them offer to let them stay with them? Why is there no mention of Mary's mother in the bible?

-In reference to Mary's mother I am not sure. We know that her father's name was Eli according to Luke 3:23 (should say son-in-law). Joseph's real father is mentioned in Matthew 1:16.

Here is the chronological order that we used to go through the Christmas narrative.

-Luke 1:26-38; Matthew 1:18-24; Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 2:1-20