



THE WORD OF FAITH

the humanity and deity of Jesus

-by KENNETH HAGIN

JOHN 1 : 1-14

1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2. The same was in the beginning with God.
3. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
4. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
5. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
6. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
7. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.
8. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.
9. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.
10. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
11. He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
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:
13. Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
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.



he question of the humanity and Deity of Jesus was contested more bitterly during the early days of Christianity than almost any other question. It has been the battle ground of speculators and metaphysicians as well as philosophers and theologians--Jesus is a puzzle

to them. To the natural mind He is a mystery.

No man has ever produced such startling results in the human. He changes liars into truth-tellers; thieves into honest men; lazy men into workers. He causes the corrupt of society to become wholesome and clean. There is something in this Man Jesus that changes ones nature the moment one takes Him as Savior and crowns Him Lord.

What is there about this Man Jesus that makes Him and every man who embraces Him so "different?" You can study Shakespeare and it certainly will not change your nature. You can study the works of any man and your nature will not be changed by it. But you cannot embrace Jesus as your Savior without having a miracle performed in your spirit. Why is this?

The answer lies in the very fact that Jesus is "different." He was not generated after the common laws of nature. We began by reading John 1:1-14. Now I would like you to read the 1st and 14th verses together. These are the facts of incarnation.

JOHN 1 : 1, 14

1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
14. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us....

Would it have been possible

for God to have come into a child born of natural generation and to dwell incarnate in the child? No! For Paul says of men that all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. (See Romans 3:23.) And Romans 5:12 tells us, "...death (spiritual death) passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

If Jesus had been born of natural generation he would have been a fallen spirit. For God to have entered a being subject to the devil would have utterly destroyed the idea of a perfect incarnation of God.

The seed must be of Divine origin. Man is subject to the devil--his seed only produces a fallen man. The Incarnate One could not be a subject of death, nor of the devil.

Jesus, during his earth walk, was not a subject of death nor of Satan. Death had no dominion over Him, until the sins of the world were laid on Him on the cross--and not till then did He become a mortal being. (Jesus was not immortal in His earth walk, but He was a perfect human as Adam was a perfect human before the fall.)

If God could have changed the nature of a child after birth so that He could be incarnate in that child, then He could as well have changed the nature of the entire human race in the same way. But to do this would have been an injustice

to Satan--and an injustice to Himself--because the sin problem would not have been settled, and the penalty of man's transgression would not have been paid.

The Redeemer must be One over whom Satan had no legal claims or authority. This could only come by a Redeemer's being conceived and born as was the Babe of Bethlehem.

Incarnation means that Deity has become united with humanity in an individual. It is the only solution of the human problem. Since the fall of man, the human has steadily sunk lower and lower, intellectually, morally, and spiritually. And the only hope for mankind is for Deity to become united with humanity to bring man back to his lost estate.

Every false religion that denies the incarnation of Jesus of Nazareth has attempted to provide a theory of universal incarnation which supposedly results in a higher moral and spiritual life. Theosophy tries to make us believe that all men have the nature of Deity. The theory is held by modern liberals, theological teachers and preachers, that the so-called "spark of Divinity" dwells in all men. And that the new birth is simply the awakening--the blowing into a flame so to speak of this "spark of Divinity."

Humanity has experimentally proved this theory false. And the entire New Testament contradicts it.

If we accept any of the Bible we must accept it all. The incarnation of Jesus of Nazareth is no more difficult to believe or to understand than the creation of man, or the birth of a child. If God is Almighty, He has power to beget a child in the womb of the virgin Mary.

If Jesus was incarnate--man and God can become united! God can dwell in these human bodies of ours. God can impart His own life and nature to our spirits that we may

have God's life in our human bodies. If Jesus was incarnate then immortality is a fact. If we do receive eternal life for our spirits then we have positive assurance that these bodies will become immortal at the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. If the incarnation is a fact, then Christianity is supernatural. Every man who has been born-again is an incarnation. And Christianity is a miracle! The Believer is as much an incarnation as was Jesus of Nazareth.

Man's condition demands an incarnation--as he is spiritually dead and without an approach to God. The incarnation of Deity with humanity provides an Incarnate One who can stand as man's mediator. Being equal with God on one hand and united with man on the other, He can bring the two together. Being Deity and humanity united, He can assume the obligation of human treason, satisfy the claims of justice, and thereby bridge the chasm between God and man.

* * *

In Genesis, we find God's first promise of incarnation. God said this to Satan just after the fall of man.

GENESIS 3:15

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.

(1) I will put enmity between thee and the woman: There is an enmity between Satan and the woman, as is proved by woman's history. She has been the special object of Satanic hatred and malice through the ages. She has borne the brunt of the fall. She has been a burden-bearer, bought and sold as common chattel.

(2)...between thy seed and her seed: There is an enmity between Satan's seed (the unregenerate human race) and her seed (Christ). Christ was hunted from His babyhood by Satan's seed, until they finally nailed

Him to the cross. And from the resurrection of Jesus until this day, the Church has been the subject of the most bitter persecution and enmity of the world. Also notice this remarkable term "the seed of the woman." We know that woman has no seed--the seed is of the man. Therefore, what can this mean? It is a prophecy that woman shall give birth to a child independent of natural generation. This is a direct statement of fact that there shall be a seed of woman, and that seed, Paul tells us, is the Christ. (3) ...it (this seed of woman) shall bruise thy (Satan's) head: In Oriental languages "bruising the head" means breaking the lordship of a ruler. When God spoke these words to Satan, Satan had just come into dominion. He had just obtained the dominion that God had given to Adam. When Adam sold out to Satan, Satan took over what was meant to be man's dominion. And Satan was to exercise this dominion without interruption until this Wonderful Seed of woman would come to break his lordship.

ISAIAH 7 : 13-14

13. And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

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.

It is a Son that a virgin is going to give birth to in a supernatural way, Isaiah prophesied, and she is going to call His name Immanuel, "God with us," or "Incarnation." Compare this with the Book of Luke:

THE WORD OF FAITH published monthly by Kenneth E. Hagin Evangelistic Ass'n., P.O. Box 50126, 1029 N. Utica, Tulsa, Ok. Doyle (Buddy) Harrison ----- Editor Billye Brim ----- Managing Editor Ruth Susen ----- Art Subscription rates: \$1.00/yr U.S. and Canada instituted by payment of regular rate (or) first \$1.00 of your donation to: Kenneth E. Hagin Evangelistic Ass'n. Volume VI ----- Number Twelve

LUKE 1:31-35

31. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

32. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

34. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

35. And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

This Child is conceived of the Holy Spirit. It is a supernatural birth. The prophet Isaiah looked on through the ages and marked out Mary, the daughter of Eli of the family of David who was to give birth to that Wonderful Being in a manger in Bethlehem 750 years later.

In Jeremiah 31:32 God says that a woman shall compass a man--more literally a woman shall encompass a man child. This Wonderful Being shall be conceived of the Holy Spirit and the womb of Mary is simply to be the receptacle of that Holy Seed until It is brought forth.

MICAH 5:2

2. But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet 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.

This prophesy of One who is going to be born of the family of Judah, to be a ruler in Israel states that His goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. He has traveled up and down through the eternities and has left His footprints on the ages.

PHILIPPIANS 2:6-8

6. Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7. But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8. And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Christ has always existed in the form of God. But He emptied Himself and took the form of a bond servant. "...and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man..." This suggests a distinct operation of God totally different from natural generation. Here is a Being with whom God performs a miracle. First by taking Him from the Godhead in Heaven and then by placing Him in the womb of a virgin to be unioned with flesh by a unique conception.



Advance Notice!

INFLATION has hit the paper industry! Seven times in the previous two years the price of paper has increased. Printing costs have risen as have the hidden costs, such as office overhead, etc., involved in publishing books.

For these reasons, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1974, we will make our first price increase since the publishing of our first book in 1957. Effective with shipments of January 1, the price of our 32 page books (now selling for 50¢) will be 60¢. The 32 page books only are affected by this increase.

Perhaps you would like to order books now for shipment prior to December 31st at the old price of 50¢. You may order in any quantity (discount schedule remains unchanged) to take advantage of the old prices on shipments prior to 12/31/73.

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Did you know that there is hidden giving power in your life insurance policies? Yes, there is. And if you would like information on how to use your life insurance policies as a tool for Planned Christian Giving, write our Stewardship Department and request the Insurance Brochure.... Remember--your giving finances the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ which is the power of God unto salvation!

CRUSADE SCHEDULE

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS Nov. 18-21
The Old 12th St. Baptist Church Auditorium
3032 West 12th Street
Sunday, Nov. 18 2:30 pm
Mon. thru Wed. 10:00 am & 7:30 pm

JOPLIN, MISSOURI Nov. 23-25
Ramada Inn
US 71 (2 blocks North of Interstate 44)
Friday, Nov. 23 7:30 pm
Saturday, Nov. 24 10:00 am & 7:30 pm
Sunday, Nov. 25 2:30 pm

MIDLAND, TEXAS Dec. 2-5
Rodeway Inn
Interstate 20 (south side of Midland)
Sunday, Dec. 2 2:30 pm
Mon. thru Wed. 10:00 am & 7:30 pm

During the latter part of November, short Radio Rally meetings will be held in WOODWARD, OKLA. & LIBERAL, KANS. Invitation cards will be mailed to those of you who live in these areas giving details.

RADIO NEWS

NEW STATIONS:

Bowling Green, Ky.	WLBK-FM	96.7	9:00 am
Beckley, West Va.	WBKW-FM	99.5	12:45 pm & 3:45 am
Nashville, Tenn.	WNAH	1360	11:45 am
Little Rock, Ark.	KGMR	1500	9:30 am

TIME CHANGES:

Corpus Christi, Tex.	KCTA	1030	12:45 pm
Louisville, Ky.	WFIA	900	12:15 pm

--WFAW WASHINGTON D.C. REPORT--

We are grateful for the continued response of our faith partners in support of our radio ministry to Washington D.C. God is working in our nation. We see His plan and will unfold. We continue to hold fast to our confession: "The Word of God prevails over Washington D.C. and our Nation."

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MOUNTAIN MOVING FAITH--YOU HAVE IT

...is the title of this month's free lesson. A new series is begun with this lesson and you won't want to miss the first one. Just write us and request your free lesson by its title.

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* * *

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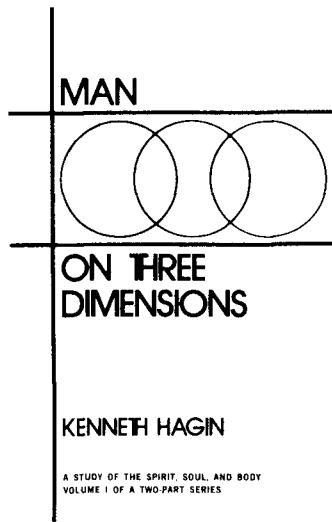
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Light is shed on God's Word and His dealings with Mankind when you view them with a knowledge of the threefold nature of Man...That Man is a spirit who possesses a soul and lives in a body..... Many seemingly difficult to understand passages take on simplicity in this light. Faith which is of the spirit, and unlocks the promises of God is easier to exercise. Kenneth

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