

“Stunned and Stirred” John 1:14 Sunday 12/22/19 – Dustin Pennington

At the conclusion of 2019 I am both stunned and stirred by this year

Intro: The story of Christmas is the revelation that God Himself became the first missionary. This is both profoundly “stunning” and “stirring”! We will reflect on what God has done and what it means for us.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

I. Stunned by the Story:

A. Eve Crushing the head

B. In Abraham God showed us His missionary plan:

1. All Nations Blessed in him

Genesis 22:18

through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

Genesis 15:6

Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

C. Established in the line of David as the Lion of the tribe of Judah

D. Prophetically Testified by the prophets

Isaiah 9:6

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

E. Gently moved on a young virgin that demonstrated faith and obedience

Luke 1:30-38

³⁰ The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, **you will** conceive in your womb and bear a son, and

you shall name Him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; ³³ and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.” ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit **will come upon you**, and the power of the Most High **will overshadow** you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ And Mary said, “Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; **may it be done to me** according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

F. Then we see God bringing Genesis 1 and John 1 into divine harmony and purpose

- In the Beginning God Created / In the Beginning the Word became flesh
- The Divine story is that God would have a people

G. Subjecting Himself to becoming human in order to suffer and die all to become a High Priest who understands our weakness

- Hardest and Darkest: Womb, Manger (a missionary)
- Not a distant God, but one who understands and gives grace in time of need

H. He Sends Holy Spirit Isaiah 9 “Wonderful Counselor”

Testimony: in a 7 day period I met both Jesus and the Holy Spirit

II. Stirred to Action

A. To Pursue Him for He alone has the words of life

B. To Represent Him well (re-present Him)

1. To live dead yet fully alive (Gal. 2:20)

C. To Tell others the good news

Illustration: The beauty and power of preaching the simple gospel to a Huasteca tribe this past week who has never heard and watching them come to Christ.

Conclusion: Does He have your "Yes" like Mary?