

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE SCARLET THREAD IN SCRIPTURE

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CHARLES M. THORELL

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PART 4: CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS

THE THREAD BECOMES FLESH

Up to this point we have seen the scarlet thread promised in Genesis, foreshadowed in the Mosaic Law, and proclaimed by the prophets. Something extraordinary happens in the Gospels as *the thread* steps into history.

The message is no longer only written. The promise is no longer only spoken. The shadow is no longer cast forward.

“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.” (John 1:14)

The Gospels do not introduce a new story, but unveil the fulfillment of the old one.

THE INCARNATION

The apostle John reaches into eternity past to declare the incarnation of Jesus.

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” (John 1:1)

Then, with stunning simplicity, he declares how God is now with mankind:

*“**And the Word was made flesh...**” (John 1:14a)*

The apostle Matthew records the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy:

*“Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us.**” (Matthew 1:23 cf. Isaiah 7:14)*

What does the incarnation mean?

- ❖ Jesus did not send a messenger; He came Himself.
- ❖ Jesus did not shout salvation from heaven; He walked among us.
- ❖ Jesus did not remain distant; He drew near.

At no point did Jesus cease to be God with the incarnation. His deity was not diminished as humanity was added.

“Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men.” (Philippians 2:6-7)



The scarlet thread is no longer hidden in prophecy. It now has a face, a voice, and a name.

MINISTRY OF JESUS

The ministry of Jesus revealed the compassion and authority He possessed. At the onset of public ministry, Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah in a synagogue.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.” (Luke 4:18-19)

Then He made an astonishing claim.

“This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.” (Luke 4:21)

The compassion of Jesus revealed how the Godhead felt about mankind.

He saw the spiritual and emotional suffering of humanity.

“But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.” (Matthew 9:36)

He touched lepers to show kindness to the outcasts of society.

“And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.” (Mark 1:40-41)

He felt the pain of those grieving loss and His weeping at Lazarus’s tomb showed empathy for human suffering.

“Jesus wept.” (John 11:35)

The authority of Jesus revealed the power of the Godhead.

Jesus commanded the storm on the Sea of Galilee with just three words; the wind and sea instantly obeyed Him, revealing His divine authority over creation.

“And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.” (Mark 4:39)

He had absolute authority over demons. He brought freedom, restoration, and healing to the

“For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.” (Mark 5:8)

demon possessed man; illustrating no power is greater than Him.

He commanded the dead with authority. Lazarus was restored to life four days after he died, demonstrating Jesus' power over death and revealed that Jesus is the source of life and the conqueror of death.

“And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.” (John 11:43-44)

It is important to recognize that these miracles were not performances, but revelations of compassion and authority. They revealed the divine identity of the man named Jesus.

TEACHING OF JESUS

The Mosaic Law was central to the teachings of Jesus.

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.” (Matthew 5:17)

The Law of Moses was divided into three parts, and when Jesus spoke of fulfilling the law, He was only referring to one of the categories – the sacrificial law.

CATEGORY	FOCUS	PURPOSE
Moral	Right and wrong	Revealed God's character
Sacrificial (Ceremonial)	Worship and rituals	Pointed to Christ
Civil/Practical	National and personal	Governed Israel's society

Jesus does not lower God's standard in the Sermon on the Mount; He reveals its true depth.

*“Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time... **But I say unto you...**” (Matthew 5:21a, 22a)*

The crowds were confused by His doctrine and authority.

*“And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For **he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.**” (Matthew 7:28-29)*

Jesus did not reinterpret Scripture. That was not necessary. He authoritatively explained it because He was its Author.

*“Looking unto Jesus **the author and finisher of our faith...**” (Hebrews 12:2a)*

MISSION OF JESUS

The mission of Jesus was to sacrificially give His life to pay for Adam's sin.

"For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)

Isaiah foretold the mission of the Messiah seven centuries earlier:

"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. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." (Isaiah 53:5-6)

Jesus declared the intent

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." (John 10:11)

The cross was not an accident. It was the assignment.

THE CROSS

It was at Calvary with the crucifixion that the scarlet thread was fully displayed. It is no longer symbolic, but literal.

"And he bearing his cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: Where they crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst." (John 19:17-18)

As Jesus hangs on the cross, He fulfills prophecy in detail:

The Messiah would be mocked. *"All they that see me laugh me to scorn..."*
(Psalms 22:7a)

The Messiah's hands and feet would be pierced. *"...they pierced my hands and my feet."*
(Psalms 22:16b)

The Messiah's garments would be divided as spoil. *"They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture."* *(Psalms 22:18)*

And then He cries out:

"It is finished." (John 19:30b)

The work of redemption was completed, not continued. Nothing was left unpaid. Nothing was left unfinished.

THE RESURRECTION

The resurrection continued the triumphant scarlet thread with the angelic announcement.

“He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.” (Matthew 28:6)

Paul explained the significance of the statement.

*“Who [Jesus] was delivered for our offences, and **was raised again for our justification.**” (Romans 4:25)*

The resurrection was God the Father’s public declaration that the sacrifice was accepted. Death was defeated. Sin was conquered. Jesus as the Messiah now reigns in heaven.

NOT THE END THE STORY

The Gospels complete the promise, but they do not end the story. Before ascending, Jesus declared:

*“**All things must be fulfilled**, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.” (Luke 24:44)*

The Gospels reveal Christ for us and the Epistles reveal Christ in us.

THE THREAD MADE VISIBLE

In the Gospels we see:

- ❖ The promise incarnated.
- ❖ The prophecy fulfilled.
- ❖ The sacrifice completed.
- ❖ The victory secured.

The scarlet thread is no longer hidden in symbols or spoken in advance. It walks, teaches, bleeds, dies, and rises again.

*“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.” (John 1:14)*

Do not read the Gospels as a mere biography of Jesus. Read them as revelation.

This is not simply what Jesus did, but who God the Son is... the Scarlet Thread and Redeemer of mankind!