Christmas Dreams

Dec 21st 2015 Bob Metcalf

Job 33:15-16 Nkjv "In a dream, in a vision of the night, When deep sleep falls upon men, While slumbering on their beds, ¹⁶ Then He opens the ears of men, (He whispers in their ears") And seals their instruction."

Examples of Biblical deep sleep in the O.T.

Gen 15:12-13 "Now when the sun was going down, **a deep sleep** fell upon Abram; and behold, horror and great darkness fell upon him. ¹³ Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them **four hundred years**."

Dan 8:15-19 "I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. ¹⁶ And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, "**Gabriel**, make this man understand the vision." ¹⁷ So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me,

"Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."

¹⁸ Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in **a deep sleep** with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright. ¹⁹ And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end shall be. "

Dan 9:21-22 "while **I was speaking in prayer**, **the man Gabriel**, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the **evening offering**. ²² And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth <u>to give</u> you skill to understand.

Dan 10:9 "Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words **I was in** a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground."

10:10-14" while **I was speaking in prayer**, **the man Gabriel**, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of **the evening offering**.

²² And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.

Reminder of Job 33:15-16 Nkjv "In a dream, in a vision of the night, When deep sleep falls upon men, While slumbering on their beds, ¹⁶ Then He opens the ears of men, (He whispers in their ears") And seals their instruction."

Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until **Messiah** the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks **Dan 9:25**

Luke 1:5-19 "There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah. His wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. ⁶ <u>And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. ⁷ But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well advanced in years.</u>

Exodus 30:7-8 "Aaron shall burn on it sweet incense every morning; when he tends the lamps, he shall burn incense on it. ⁸ And when Aaron lights the lamps at twilight, he shall burn incense on it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations."

Pro 16:33 "The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the LORD"

Pro 18:18 "Casting lots causes contentions to cease, And keeps the mighty apart."

Luke 1:10 And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense.

This was the very time of the evening sacrifice when Daniel was ministering to the Lord

NO COINCEDENCE!!

Luke 1:11 Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

⁸ So it was, that while he was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, ⁹ according to the custom of the priesthood, **his lot fell** to burn incense when **he went into the temple of the Lord**.

¹³ But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ¹⁴ And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵ For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶ And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷ He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." ¹⁸ And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years."

¹⁹ And the angel answered and said to him, "<u>I am Gabriel</u>, who <u>stands in the presence of God</u>, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings.

Hebrews 1:14 "Are they not all (angels) ministering spirits **sent forth** to minister/serve for those who will inherit salvation!"

Luke 1:26-27 " Now in the sixth month the angel <u>Gabriel</u> was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

Luke 1:31-38 "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; 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 of His kingdom there will be no end."

We see two miracles take place here;

- ---An older barren woman giving birth!
- ---A virgin giving birth!

Philippians 2:6-7 says, "who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God."

But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men."

The Amplified Bible says, "But He stripped Himself of all privileges and rightful dignity."

The phrase about Jesus not considering equality with God robbery <u>literally means to hold onto something greedily or tightly.</u>

Jesus was willing to let go of His divine rights and privileges.

What does this "emptied" Himself mean? Greek, original language 'Kenosis'

"What is the kenosis?" Jesus "emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men." Jesus did not cease to be God during His earthly ministry. But He did set aside His heavenly glory of a face-to-

³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"

³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for **her who was called barren.** ³⁷ For with God nothing will be impossible."

³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! <u>Let it be to me according to your word.</u>" And the angel departed from her.

face relationship with God. He also set aside His independent authority. During His earthly ministry, Christ completely submitted Himself to the will of the Father.

- -When it comes to the kenosis, we often focus too much on what Jesus gave up.
- -The kenosis also deals with what Christ took on!
- -Jesus added to Himself a human nature and humbled Himself.
- -Does this mean he is part God and part man? NO!
- -He is fully God and fully man!

Jesus went from being the glory of glories in heaven, to being a human being who was put to death on the cross.

Philippians 2:8 says, "And being found in <u>appearance</u> as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."

The word translated "appearance" here is used in ancient Greek writing to describe a king that would lay aside all of his royal garments and put on the clothing of a beggar, and then go out and mix among the populace in order to better understand his people.