

A MESSENGER.....

THIS PAGE IS COPIED FROM THE WRITINGS OF PRESTON J EBY.

What is Christmas? As we were about to begin this new page in this series, we received a timely word from a precious son of God. We quote (COPY) from the writings of brother Eby. This word coming from him is a confirmation to us of what the Lord is sharing in our heart. And this reference is of the STAR (JESUS CHRIST) falling from heaven (Rev 9:1).

“There is a vast difference between *descending from heaven* and being *cast out of heaven*. The King James Bible tells us that John saw “a star *fall* from heaven,” but that is not the way it reads in the Greek text. The verb “fall” is not in the present tense at all, and does not denote an action taking place in the present, or at the instant that John beheld it, but something that has already transpired in the past. The Emphatic Diaglott, along with various modern translations, more correctly translates the passage, “and I saw a star *having fallen* from the heaven to the earth.” But even the words “having fallen” need some clarification also, for they seem to carry the connotation of something plunging down through the atmosphere, like a meteor, in an unimpeded and uncontrolled manner. Furthermore, there is no sense of why the star is falling – was it pushed, or did it jump? However, the expression comes from a Greek word which is akin to another word meaning to fly, and its use indicates something that is *flying* in a prescribed pattern and then *alights on the earth*. That is the precise use of the Greek word in this passage! The great truth that the Holy Spirit would teach all who have ears to hear is that Christ, the firstborn Son of God, is the star that alighted on the earth and set in motion the correctional and transformational processes by which mankind is transformed from the image of the earthly into the image of the heavenly! Oh, the wonder of it!

When the Christ “descended” He did far more than merely leave one place and go to another. Since heaven is not a “place” but a *spiritual realm of life* and dominion, to “descend” does not speak of a change of location, rather, a *change of being*. The Spirit of God makes no mistake about this! *“From the beginning He had the nature of God. Yet He did not regard equality with God as something at which He should grasp (hold on to). Nay, He stripped Himself of His glory, and took on Him the nature of a bondservant by becoming a man like other men. And being recognized as truly human, He humbled Himself and even stooped to die; and then that too a death on the cross. It is because of this also that God has so highly exalted Him, and has conferred on Him the name which is supreme above every other name, in order that in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of beings in the highest heavens, of those on the earth...”* (Phil. 2:6-11, Weymouth Translation).

Yes, Christ *descended*, not geographically, but He descended in rank, in form, in substance, to *become a man!* The Mighty God became a man! And becoming a man He identified with all that was common to man. *“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil. For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels; but He took on Him the seed of Abraham”* (Heb. 2:14,16). Yes, my beloved, CHRIST DESCENDED from the high and holy realm of the Eternal Spirit into the depth of totality of the human experience, into the depth of what man *is*, into an identification and participation with the whole dreadful realm of darkness and death into which mankind had fallen. This was the Son of man, the Son of God, a member of the Divine Family, the Elohim, having changed Himself into a tiny collection of human cells, growing to be born of a virgin in Bethlehem, and living human life as it had never been lived before. He became obedient in this walk even unto death. With the coming of the Christ into this world of ours the STAR HAD FALLEN (COME DOWN) FROM HEAVEN UNTO THE EARTH!” end quote.