

us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” (I Peter 1:3).

“Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some. Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity”

(II Tim. 2:18).

V. THE ASCENSION: (Luke .24:50-53 Acts 1:6-11)

as-cen-sion (...-sɒn“sh...n)*Theology.* The bodily rising of Jesus into heaven on the 40th day after his Resurrection. (T. A. H. Dictionary).

“So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen” (Mark 16:19-20).

VI. THE GLORIFICATION: (I Tim.3:16)

glo-ri-fy (glôr“...-f^{oo}”, gl/ɹr“-) *tr.v.* glo-ri-fied, glo-ri-fy-ing, glo-ri-fies. 1.

To give glory, honor, or high praise to; exalt. To give glory to, especially through worship. --glo”ri-fi-ca“tion (-f^l-k³“sh...n) *n.* -- glo“ri-fi”er *n.* (T.A.H. Dictionary).

VII. THE REVELATION: LAST BOOK OF THE NEW

TESTAMENT. *Re-ve-la-tion* (rɒv”...-f^{oo}“sh...n) *n.* 1.a. The act of revealing or disclosing. 2. *Theology.* A manifestation of divine will or truth.

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the *marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready*” (Revelation 19:7).

“MERRY CHRISTMAS AND GOD-BLEST NEW YEAR”



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Merry Christmas
2008

The Challenge of

CHRISTMAS

BY DR. L. D. KRAMER

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December 21, 2008

“GOD’S UNSPEAKABLE GIFT”

TEXT: “Thanks *be* unto God for his unspeakable gift”(II Cor. 9:15).

“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory” (I Tim. 3:16).

I. THE INCARNATION:

Incarnation. *Theology.* The Christian doctrine that the Son of God was conceived in the womb of Mary and that Jesus is true God and true man. 1. A bodily manifestation of a supernatural being. T.A.H.Dictionary.

“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).

“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel”(Isaiah 7:14).

“And he shall pass through Judah; he shall overflow and go over, he shall reach *even* to the neck; and the stretching out of his wings shall fill the breadth of thy land, O Immanuel” (Isaiah 8:8).

“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” (Matt. 1:23).

II. THE TRANSFIGURATION: (Before was temptation).

trans·fig·u·ra·tion (tr²ns-f¹g²y...-r³“sh...n) *n.* 1.a. A marked change in form or appearance; a metamorphosis. b. A change that glorifies or exalts. 2. Transfiguration.a. The sudden emanation of radiance from the person of Jesus that occurred on the mountain. b. The Christian feast commemorating this event, observed on August 6 and, in the Eastern Orthodox Church, on August 19. (T.A.H. Dictionary).

“And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said unto

Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. And when the disciples heard *it*, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid”(Matt. 17:2-7).

“And after six days Jesus taketh *with him* Peter, and James, and John, and leadeth them up into an high mountain apart by themselves: and he was transfigured before them” (Mark 9:2).

III. THE CRUCIFIXION:(Mt.27:33-56 Lk.23:33-49 John19:17-37)

crucifixion (kr²”s...-f¹k“sh...n) *n.* 1.a. The act of crucifying; execution on a cross. b. Crucifixion. The crucifying of Jesus on Calvary. Used with *the*. c. A representation of Jesus on the cross. 2. An extremely difficult, painful trial; torturous suffering. (T.A.H. Dictionary).

“Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? *They* all say unto him, Let him be crucified. And the governor said, Why, what evil hath he done? But they cried out the more, saying, Let him be crucified” (Matt. 27:22).

IV. THE RESURRECTION: (Mt.28:1-15 Lk.24:1-49 John 20:1-23)

resurrection (ruz²”...-r¹uk“sh...n) *n.* 1. The act of rising from the dead or returning to life. 2. The state of one who has returned to life. 3. The act of bringing back to practice, notice, or use; revival. 4. Resurrection. *Theology.* a. The rising again of Jesus on the third day after the Crucifixion. b. The rising again of the dead at the Last Judgment. (T.A.H. Dictionary)

“Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten