

The Christmas Conspiracy

Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38

I. Scripture reading: Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38

II. The Christmas Conspiracy: The dark shroud of death covered the world. All of mankind – the pinnacle of God’s earthly creation – was held firmly by the slavery of sin. A single nation out of all the nations of man cried out to God for deliverance: Israel, who had the promises of Y-H-W-H sought his coming with great expectations of his soon coming. Through God’s incomparable wisdom and sovereign might, He had conspired within himself and with his angels to finally deliver on the promises made throughout the centuries. God the Father sent God the Son to be conceived by His Holy Spirit. The plans were announced by angels to chosen servants: Mary and Joseph. These mortals would be beckoned by the Most High to join Him in his conspiracy begun so many centuries before...

III. The Purpose: Reconciliation

God knew that there was only one way to rescue the rebels of earth from their own rebellion and the penalty of that rebellion. God longed to reconcile the peoples of the earth to Himself, yet they were sinful and ignorant of His glory and worth. The plan was conceived before the creation of the world, but in the time of the reign of Caesar Augustus and King Herod the Great of Israel, God revealed the first phase of His ancient plan to reconcile the world to himself...

IV. The Conspirators:

The Father [John 3:16-17; John 17:1-5; Galatians 4:4-5] God the Father was the architect of the conspiracy and the plan to reconcile the world to Himself. He chose the manner and the method of the reconciliation. He chose His Son and the name by which He would be called. He also chose the timing of the Son’s coming.

The Son [Philippians 2:5-7; 2 Corinthians 8:9; 1 Timothy 1:15] Jesus was the implement of the Father’s plan. He conspired with the Father and was humbly submissive to His will. He chose to lose, for a time, the glory and riches of His divine nature so that He might join us in our frailty as Immanuel.

The Spirit [Matthew 1:8; Luke 1:35] Even as the Spirit joined in the conspiracy during creation (“...and the Spirit of God hovered over the waters” – Gen. 1:2), so He was a part of it in the new creation. He can to overshadow the virgin who would carry the Christ-child. God would father a child by the power of His Spirit.

Mary [Luke 1:38] Mary was new to the conspiracy when it came time to implement the first phase. She was carrying on as a typical Jewish woman would in that time when her whole life was interrupted by an announcement made by a glorious messenger of God. She was highly favored and blessed – and afraid! Her reaction would be enough to inspire us all: “I am the Lord’s servant. May it be to me as you have said.”

Joseph [Matthew 1:24; 2:14; 2:21] Joseph was another mortal entrusted with the opportunity to join in on God’s conspiracy. He would be the adoptive father of Christ-child. His life was also radically interrupted by the plan of God. His willingness is summarized by the reports of his responses to the angel’s messages: in short, he obeyed every instruction of the Lord.

V. Join the Conspiracy: The Lord has invited his adopted children of the new birth to join Him in His plan of reconciliation. The question for each of us is whether we will join in the “ministry of reconciliation”. You can be a part of the ancient conspiracy. Will it cost you? Yes! Will your life be interrupted? Absolutely! Will it be worth it? Eternally! Let us decide together that we will join in God’s grand conspiracy of salvation. Amen.