



Christmas Day | Friday December 25, 2020 A Star

The stars have always been a great fascination for us, humans. Just the sheer magnitude of the universe with its millions, literally, countless stars, overwhelms us. It is just unimaginable.

Life on earth would not be possible without our nearest star, the sun. As the earth rotating on its axis, revolves around the sun, we receive light and heat, experience day and night, and all that is needed for plant, animal and human life on earth to flourish.

The Bible teaches us that God created everything, this vast universe, and the stars (Genesis 1:16). The heavens and stars are called the work of His fingers (Psalm 8:3). The Scriptures tell us that the invisible attributes of God, His eternal power and God-Head are seen in His creation (Romans 1:20). Hence, we can only imagine that the reason the universe is so vast is to convey to us the infiniteness of our God, the greatness of His eternal unending power. And it also conveys to us the greatness of His knowledge. The Bible tells us He knows the number of the stars, He calls them all by name (Psalm 147:4).

Now, we must make it clear that God has instructed us not to worship the celestial bodies (Deuteronomy 4:19) and not to look to the stars for guidance (Jeremiah 10:2-3). So as God's people we do not engage in astrology.

Yet, God in His sovereignty can choose to use anything in His creation to speak to us, just as He used a bright star in the East to guide the wise men to Bethlehem (Matthew 2:2,7,9-10).

Another interesting truth is that when God wishes to communicate to us, to reveal aspects of Himself, He often uses things from the natural world He created to help us understand something of Himself.

He uses metaphors, or pictures to help us understand something of Himself.

For example, many of us may be familiar with these metaphors and pictures: The **bread** of life (source of nourishment); the Rock (the firm foundation), the water of life (quenches our thirst, meets every need); the door of the sheep (the point of entry, and the means of protection and security); the good shepherd (cares for His own as a shepherd), the way, the truth, and the life, the true vine, etc. And last Sunday, we examined the Lion and the Lamb metaphors.



What is interesting is that God has used the metaphor of “A Star” to refer to Jesus Christ. And Jesus uses this metaphor of “A Star” to refer to Himself.

This prophecy by Balaam was about 1,500 years before the birth of Jesus

Numbers 24:17

I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and batter the brow of Moab, and destroy all the sons of tumult.

Zechariah’s prophesied about Jesus

Luke 1:78-79

78 Through the tender mercy of our God, with which the Dayspring from on high has visited us;

79 To give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Dayspring = rising sun

Revelation 22:16

"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Jesus said: “I am the Bright and Morning Star”.

The Bright Star shines and dispels darkness completely.

The Morning Star shines brightest at the break of dawn, announces, and welcomes a new day.

JESUS THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR

(What does this metaphor mean? What does this signify? What does it mean for us today?)

Jesus came to be the Bright and Morning Star for you in your life!

Jesus is the BRIGHT STAR that illuminates

TO GIVE LIGHT - turns darkness to light, gives life, vitality, and cheer.

TO GUIDE - leading us in paths that bring peace.

John 1:4-5,9

4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.



9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

John 8:12

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

The star was AN ANCIENT EMBLEM OF SOVEREIGNTY, of a triumphant king and his kingdom, who vanquishes enemies, liberates, delivers, and establishes the kingdom.

Jesus is the MORNING STAR who ushers in a NEW DAY and a NEW BEGINNING in His Kingdom. He will turn things around in your life and cause a new day to dawn, a new beginning to emerge.

LET JESUS THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR RISE IN YOUR HEART

2 Peter 1:19

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

Peter encourages believers who were going through a difficult time to hold on to God's Word – the word the prophets had spoken of – and they will experience the morning star rising up in their hearts.

HOLD FAST, OVERCOME, JESUS THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR IS YOUR REWARD

Revelation 2:25,26,28

25 But hold fast what you have till I come.

26 And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—

28 and I will give him the morning star.

The Lord Jesus tells us to hold fast what He has given us. To the overcomer, Jesus gives Himself, the Bright and Morning Star, as a Reward!

INVITATION TO RESPOND

Salvation, healing, miracles



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>