

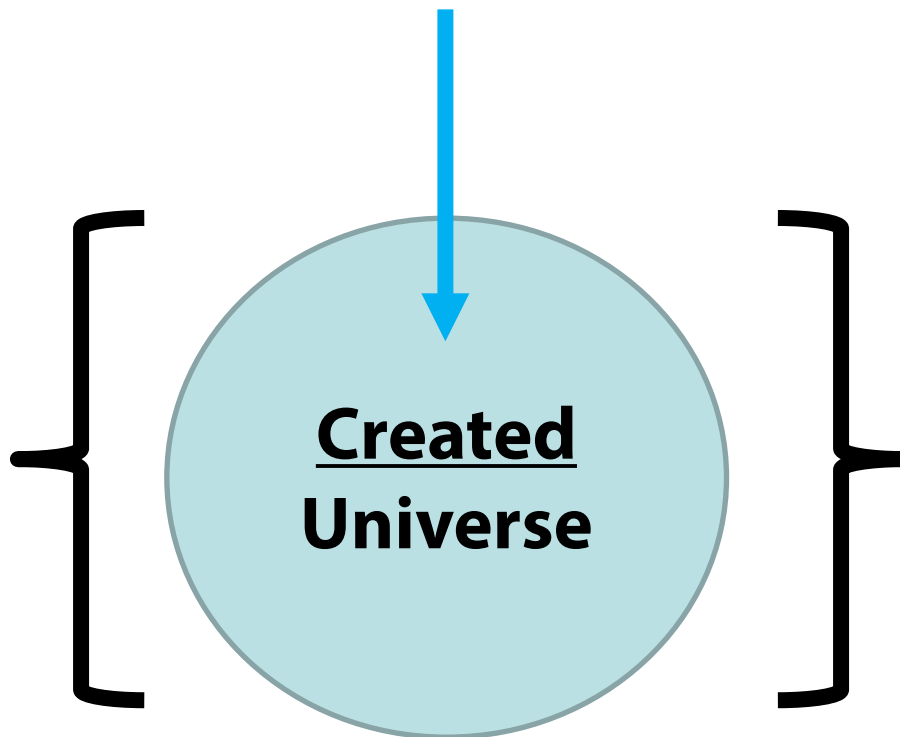
**The Incarnation:
What it Took in History**

Fellowship Chapel
December 11, 2022

THE DUAL EXISTENCES from Creation

The Uncreated Eternal Triune Creator

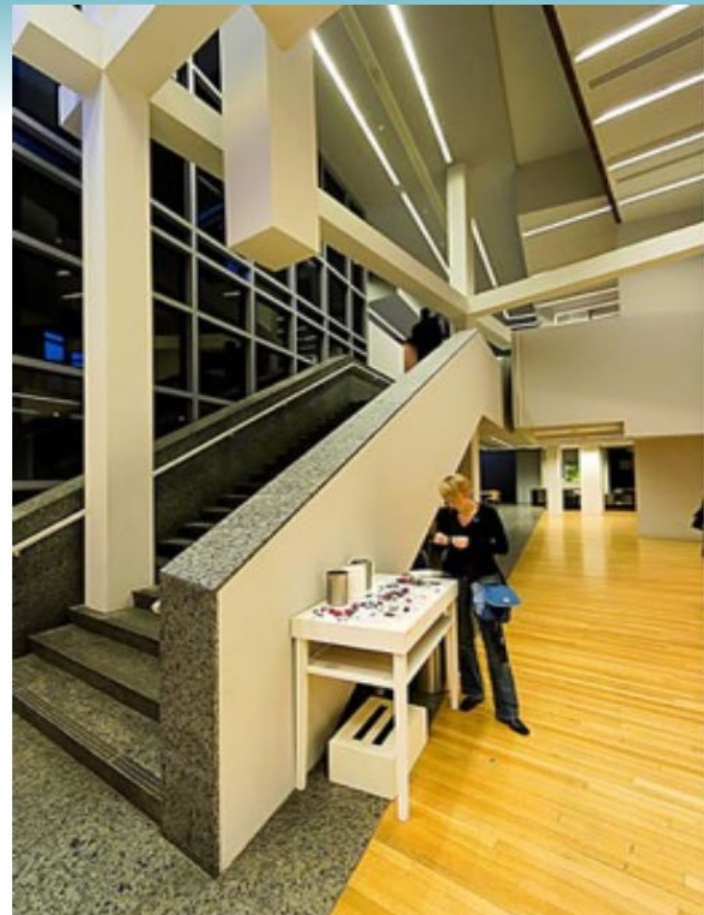
Verbal Revelation
must cross the
boundary from
God at some times
and places and
must be saved



General
Revelation of
God's
engineering
everywhere but
non-verbal

Anthropocentric Thinking Can't Avoid Relying on Theocentric Truths!

Wexner Center, OSU



The Creator/creature Distinction Can be Suppressed but Never Avoided

“Cold symbols and formulas [in mathematics] completely at the disposition of man have enabled him to secure a portentous grip on the universe. Some explanation of this marvelous power is called for.”

~Morris Kline, *Mathematics and the Physical World*, ix

“The questions of the ultimate foundations and . . . meaning in mathematics remain an open problem; we do not know . . . whether a final objective answer can be expected at all.”

~Hermann Weyl, *Philosophy of Mathematics and Natural Science*, 219.

Words and Thinking

“Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.”

Genesis 2:19–20

Some Simple “TriUnities” in Creation

The Trinity	God the Father (unseen)	God the Son	God the Spirit (unseen)
Tri-Unity of Man	Nature	Person	Personality
Tri-Unity of Language	Thought	Expression	Effect
Tri-Unity of Time	Future	Present	Past

Universal avoidance of a personal relationship with God:

“Although they personally knew God, they did not glorify Him as God nor were they thankful/grateful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Professing to be wise, they became fools and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man, and birds, and four-footed animals, and creeping things [created objects to be their God-substitutes instead of the Creator].”

Romans 1:21–23

The “Protevangelium”

“I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed. He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

Genesis 3:15

Matthew 1:1–17

Joseph's Descent from David

“Matthew begins hinting at a point he makes quite clear later . . . the purpose of the Messiah coming was to save sinners. . . . The requirement for the Throne of Judah was that of Davidic descent . . . and prophetic sanction. But in Matt. 1:11 King Jeconiah is listed, one of the last kings before the Babylonian captivity . . . God through Jeremiah in Jer. 22:24–30 pronounced a curse upon him . . . no descendant of Jeconiah would have any rights to the Throne of David. . . . So Joseph, having the blood of Jeconiah, was not qualified to sit on David's throne. So then, if Jesus was really Joseph's son, this would have disqualified him from sitting on David's throne.”

~Arnold Fruchtenbaum, *Messianic Christology* (Tustin, CA: Ariel Ministries, 1998), 136f

Joseph's Genealogy in Matthew 1:1–17 and Cursed Jeconiah through Jeremiah

“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham. Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers . . . Salmon beget Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, Jesse begot David the king, David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah, . . . Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. Josiah begot Jeconiah . . . about the time they were carried away to Jerusalem.”

“As I live, says the LORD, though Jeconiah, the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, were the signet on my right hand, yet I would pluck you off . . . O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the LORD: Write this man down as childless . . . None of his descendants shall prosper, sitting on the Throne of David.”

Jeremiah 22:24–30

Matthew's Account of the Incarnation Emphasizing Joseph's Involvement

“The birth of Jesus was as follows. After his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child by the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph, her husband, . . . was minded to put her away secretly. . . . an angel of the LORD appeared to him in a dream, saying ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.’ . . . Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the LORD commanded him and took to him his wife and did not know her until she had brought forth her first born son. And he called His name JESUS.”

Matthew 1:19–25

Luke 3:23–38

Mary's Descent from David

“If, by Jewish law, you could not mention the name of a woman, but you wished to trace a woman’s line, how would you go about doing so? The answer is you would use the name of her husband . . . How would you know whether the genealogy is that of the husband or that the wife . . .? The answer to that riddle lies in a problem with the English language that does not exist with the Greek language. . . . In the Greek text of Luke’s genealogy, every name mentioned has the Greek definite article for *the*, with one exception, and that is the name of Joseph. . . . This means that this was not really Joseph’s genealogy, but rather it is Mary’s genealogy.”

~Arnold Fruchtenbaum, *Messianic Christology* (Tustin, CA: Ariel Ministries, 1998), 138.

Mary's Genealogy in Luke 3:23–38 Independent of Cursed Jeconiah

“Jesus began His ministry at about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, the son of Heli. . . . The son of Melea, the son of Menan, the son of Mattathah, the son of Nathan, the son of David, . . . The son of Methuselah, the son of Enoch, . . . the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.”

NOTE: (1) Luke's genealogy listing is complete all the way back to Adam;

(2) Mary descending from David through Nathan, not through Solomon and thus not through cursed Jeconiah.

Luke's Account of the Incarnation Emphasizing Mary's Involvement

“In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God . . . to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel said to her, ‘Rejoice highly favored one, the Lord is with you, blessed are you among women!’ But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying . . . Then the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and you will call his name Jesus. . . . and the Lord God will give the throne of his father David . . . and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

Luke 1:26–33

Luke's Account of the Incarnation Emphasizing Mary's Involvement

“Then Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I know not a man?’ And the angel answered and said, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you . . . that Holy One . . . Will be called the Son of God. . . . Then Mary said, ‘Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.’ And the angel departed from her.”

Luke 1:34–38

Gentiles Excluded from the Messianic Line, but Receive the Jewish Records of Verbal Revelation and Offer of Salvation

“I will make of you [Abraham] a great nation . . . and you shall be a blessing. And I will bless them that bless you and curse him that curses you, and in you shall all the families of the earth be blessed.” Genesis 12:2–3 (ca ~ 2000 BC)

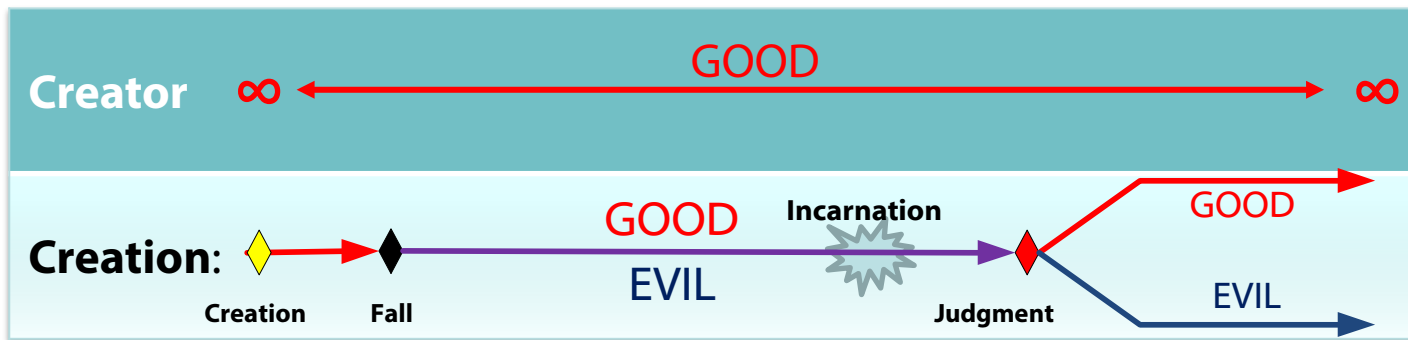
“Has Israel stumbled that they should fall? God forbid. Rather through their fall, salvation has come to the Gentiles. . . . If some of the branches be broken off, and you [Gentiles] being a wild olive tree were grafted in among them . . . boast not against the branches.” Romans 11:11–18

Jesus Christ has Won Converts from Every Nation and Now Opens the Scroll of Doom

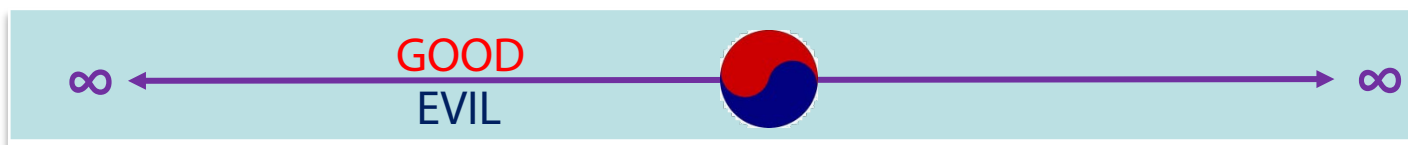
“I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back sealed with seven seals. . . . Behold the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seals. . . . When He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty four elders . . . sang a new song, saying ‘You are worthy to take the scroll and to open the seals for You were slain and have redeemed us to God by your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation.’ ”

Who Has the REAL “Evil Problem”?

Christian: Good / Evil mix is “abnormal” and temporary



Pagan: Good / Evil mix is permanently “normal”



19th Century Christian Writer, George MacDonald's Statement:

“There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, ‘Thy will be done,’ and those to whom God says, ‘Thy will be done.’”