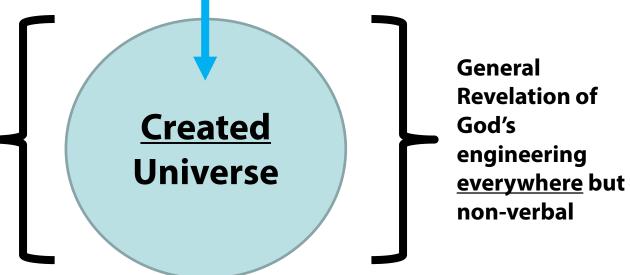
The Incarnation: Summary

Fellowship Chapel January 8, 2023

THE DUAL EXISTENCES from Creation

Velation

Verbal Revelation must cross the boundary from God at <u>some times</u> <u>and places</u> and must be saved



Universal responsibility: The wrath of God is revealed ... against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who <u>suppress the truth</u> in unrighteousness because what can be known of God is manifest in them, for <u>God has shown it</u> to them. Rom. 1:18–19

How can this be for those without access to the Word of God? General, non-verbal revelation has <u>always been present everywhere</u>.

Since the creation of the world His unseen (Gk: *a-oratos*) attributes are clearly seen (Gk: *kath-orao*) being understood by the things that [He has] made—[namely] His ever-working power and divine nature so that they are without excuse.

Rom. 1:20

BIBLEFRAMEWORK **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.

Legalism: Outward Behavior Emphasized Over Inner Heart Attitude

"My son, be more careful in [the observance of] the words of the Scribes than in the words of the Torah, for in the laws of the Torah there are positive and negative precepts...; but as to the laws of the Scribes, who ever transgresses any of the enactments of the Scribes incurs the penalty of death."

-Rabbi Dr. I. Epstein, ed., The Babylonian Talmud, Dedar Mo'ed

Interview with the Bethlehem Shepherds

"Jonathan to the Masters of Israel, Servants of the True God: In obedience to your order, I met with two men, who said they were shepherds, and were watching their flocks near Bethlehem. They told me that while attending to their sheep, ... some of them had lain down and were asleep. They were awakened by those who were keeping watch with the questions: 'What does all this mean? Look how light it is.' When they were aroused it was light as day. ... All at once the air seemed to be filled with human voices, saying, 'Glory! Glory! Glory to the most high God!' And 'Happy are thou Bethlehem, for God has fulfilled His promise to the fathers."

~The Archeological Writings of the Sanhedrim and the Talmuds of the Jews (Michigan: The Archko Press, 1887), 64.

Interview with the Bethlehem Shepherds

"Their shoutings would rise up in the heavens, and then would sink down in mellow strains, and roll along at the foot of the hills, and die away in the most soft and musical manner they had ever heard; then it would begin again high up in the heavens, in the very vaults of the sky and descend in sweet and melodious strains, so they could not refrain from shouting and weeping at the same time. The light would seem to burst forth high up in the heavens, and then descend in softer rays and light up the hills and valleys, making everything more visible than the light of the sun, though it was not so brilliant, but clearer like the brightest moon."

~The Archeological Writings of the Sanhedrim and the Talmuds of the Jews (Michigan: The Archko Press, 1887), 64f.

Modern Parallel to the Phenomena at Bethlehem

"The 5 men who murdered the missionaries became not only Christians, but also spiritual leaders among their people. After they believed, they shared how on that fateful day, they heard singing from above the trees. Looking up they saw what appeared to be a canopy of bright lights. God was welcoming His children home."

~E. Michael and Sharon Rusten, *The One Year Christian History* (Illinois: Tyndale House Publishers, 2003), p18f.

The Eternal Loving Trinity

"Father, I desire that they whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world." John 17:24

"By Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible ... All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist." Col. 1:16–17

"God who at various times ... spoke to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son ... through Whom He made the ages ... who being the express image of His person and upholding all things by the word of His power ... sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high." Heb. 1:1–3

The Eternal Loving Trinity

"The life was manifested and we have seen ... and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us. That which we have seen and heard we declare to you that you may <u>have fellowship with us</u> and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ... If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we <u>have fellowship with one another</u> and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." ... 1 John 1:2–3

"He who says he is in the light and <u>hates his brother is in</u> <u>darkness until now</u>. He who loves his brother abides in the light and there is no cause of stumbling in him." 1 John 2:9–10