## BEFORE; "IN THE BEGINNING" BY KAREN SANKOWSKI

We know our God is a very purposeful God; He is precise in His works and His timing. He is a God that starts and completes all that He says He will do. Creation itself must have been so precious to God, that He would command such extensive preparatory work.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. Gen 1:1-2. Then it goes on to say:

He created the light Gen 1:3. The firmament Gen 1:6. Separated the earth from the waters Gen 1:9. He created the sun, moon and stars Gen 1:14. He created the fish, fowl, beasts and cattle Gen 1:20. He created man in the image of God Gen 1:26.

## But...Before; "In the Beginning".

**Before** He created the heavens, **Before** He created the light, **Before** He created the firmament, **Before** He separated the earth from the waters, **Before** He created the sun, **Before** He created the moon, the stars, **Before** He created the fish, **Before** He created the fowl, **Before** He created the beasts, *Before* He created the cattle, **even** *Before* He created Man!

God's want of fellowship with man is so desired; He created the provision to maintain that fellowship; First! Before He created anything else.

Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion. I will declare the decree; the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my son; this day have I begotten thee. Ps. 2:6-7.

The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, *before* his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; when there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: Then I was by him, as one brought up with him: and I was daily his(God's) delight, rejoicing always before him; Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my (Christ's) delights were with the sons of men. Prov. 8:24-31. How could Christ delight in the sons of men if he didn't (already) know the joy that was set before him; ... Heb.12:2.

## THE CREATION OF MAN:

God said; Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. ... Gen. 1:26.

Man was made **last** of all the creatures: He was to be a creature different from **all** others; for He was made in the image of God; one of flesh and spirit, heaven and earth, must be put together in him. The Father wants men to fellowship with Him. Man was made, to glorify the one who created him, that is: God The Father, Christ His Son, and Holy Spirit.

All this was purposed and determined *before* the foundation of the world. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. John 1:1-4. Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me *before* the foundation of the world. John 17:24

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us **in him** *before* the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Eph 1:3-4. Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained *before* the foundation of the world, ... 1 Peter 1:18-20.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that you **also** may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. 1 John 1:1-3.

Can't you just hear and feel the exuberance, as the apostle speaks of that which they have witnessed. They heard him; they have seen with their eyes, they've handled, of the Word of life. It was manifested, and they have seen it, and bear witness. O brethren, we too have heard, we too have seen, we too have handled the Word of life; it has been manifested unto us through faith! And, we are blessed. Jesus said: Blessed are they that believe, yet have not seen. O Lord, how manifold are thy works! ...Ps.104:24. Amen.

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