

CAN GOD BECOME A MAN?

The above is not just a question, but it is a fact and reality that leads to life. If we go back to the beginning when God created Adam and Eve; they were in the Garden of Eden enjoying the fellowship with God until they disobeyed Him, when they ate the fruit of the forbidden tree. God was with Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:8) but because they sinned, the Lord God banished them from the Garden of Eden. The longing to live again with God became the human desire from the time of Adam and Eve, but man cannot reach God because man is sinful and God is holy.

God's delight as well is with man! Therefore God promised His people, ***"I will put my dwelling place among you, and I will not abhor you. I will walk among you, and be your God, and you will be my people."*** (Leviticus 26:11-12) The Lord God had promised that HE will live and walk with man, but how this can happen? This promise was given 1500 years BC. It would look unreasonable or in other words impossible, but ***"What is impossible for man is possible for God."***

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel (means God with us)." (Isaiah 7:14) This is from the prophecy of Isaiah, the prophet of God who declared that a virgin woman would become pregnant and give birth to a child who will be called "God with us." This prophecy was written 700 years BC, and it was fulfilled through virgin Mary. She was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with a child by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her, so he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ***"But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because He will save his people from their sins."*** (Matthew 1:20-21)

The word Jesus means *"the Lord saves."* God Himself came from heaven to save his people. ***"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel – which means God with us'."*** (Matthew 1:22-23)

The child Jesus grew up and became a man. Through Jesus, God's promise to live and to walk among His people is fulfilled. Jesus, while living with men, He healed the sick, He drove out demons, He opened the eyes of the blind, He made the mute to speak and the deaf to hear. He multiplied the bread and fish and fed the thousands of people, and He raised the dead to life. He did all the mighty acts of God. He proved that He is God.

God, when He appeared to Moses in a burning bush, Moses asked Him, *"What is your name?"* God answered, ***"I am who I am."*** The word *'I am'* is the name of God. In the New Testament Jesus used the word *'I am'* many times. Some of these are:

(a) ***"I am the bread of Life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."*** (John 6:35) Food is for the body, but for our souls we need spiritual food that comes from God. Jesus spoke the bread of life, His word is the love of God to us, His word is the proper food for our souls because Jesus is God. ***"Man***

does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Matthew 4:4)

(b) ***"I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*** (John 8:12) People away from God are in darkness; they stumble and fall. They need the light so they can see their ways. Jesus is the light of the world that vanishes the darkness. ***"Through him all things are made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men."*** (John 1:3)

(c) ***"I am the good Shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."*** (John 10:11) The Old Testament mentioned that God is the good shepherd who take care of the sheep. The sheep are His people. David wrote, ***"The Lord is my shepherd I shall not be in want"*** (Psalm 23:1) Jesus did not lose any of his sheep but He gave His life for them. Jesus declared, *'I am the good shepherd'* because He is God.

(d) ***"I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep."*** (John 10:7) Jesus is the door for the believers to enter His kingdom. Those who listen to Him and follow Him, they enter His kingdom, the Kingdom of God. ***"My sheep listen to my voice, I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal Life, and they shall never perish; no-one can snatch them out of my hand."*** John 10:27-28

(e) ***"I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"*** (John 11:25-26) God is the One who gives Life. He is the Only One who can raise people from the dead. Jesus said I am the resurrection and the life because He is God. No mere man or prophet can claim this word but God.

(f) ***"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*** (John 14:16) Jesus is the only truth and the only way to abundant and eternal life because He is God. As you decide to follow Him, you will be in a personal relationship with God.

Don't be amazed. The above is the truth. God is the Lord of Love, and He delights to live with man. God appeared as a man to Abraham (Genesis 18:1-5) and to Jacob (Genesis 32:22-30). By God's great love, our sins are forgiven through the shed of His blood; the blood of Jesus on the cross. By His blood we became the children of God.

My dear and beloved: If you believe that God created the heaven and the earth, and God is in heaven; "Is it impossible that He came to earth?" If you believe that God created the man, then, is it impossible for God to become a man to save men from sin and death? Don't you believe in His promise, ***"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*** (John 10:10b) Life and blessing is only received from Jesus as we accept and claim His word. ***"And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus."*** (Philippians 4:19)

"Father God in heaven, I thank You for your great love and compassion. I love you, Lord, and I thank you because You came from heaven and became a man to seek and to save me. You died for me on the cross taking away my sins and giving me eternal life. Thank you God, in Jesus' name, Amen."