

# **My Redeemer Lives**

## **(A Testimony of the Word of God Written in the Heavens)**

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Hardly a day goes by without seeing the media, be it entertainment or news, attack the fabric and core beliefs of Christianity. Their words and images cast shadows of doubt upon the inerrancy of the Holy Scriptures, as they primarily target those testimonies dealing with redemption and our future hope of resurrection and eternal life.

The written end-time prophecies can definitely help sustain us through these attacks; however, God (Elohiym) also provided another witness to reassure and strengthen us—a witness that even predates the written Scriptures. Although Satan’s henchmen hack away at the Bible, its testimony was already established in the heavens 2500 years before any of it was written on earth. This ancient, celestial display of God’s plan of redemption formed the essence of what was later recorded in the Scriptures.

E.W. Bullinger, a marvelous researcher of the mid-to-late 1800s wrote,

We have to remember that our written Scriptures began with Moses, say in 1490 B.C.: and thus, for more that 2,500 years, the revelation of the hope which God gave in Gen. 3:15 was preserved in the naming of the stars and their grouping in Signs and Constellations.<sup>1</sup>

The heavens perpetually repeat the same promise day unto day and night unto night: *a Redeemer and King of Glory is coming to establish true righteousness and rulership in the world!* This message is etched onto the black backdrop of the heavens, unceasingly confirming its fulfillment. In addition, embedded within that celestial prophecy is a guarantee of divine retribution and judgment upon those who have launched their shallow attacks on the Truth. Like everyone, they are without excuse because the heavens continuously witness the Creator to them.

There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard—their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world (Psalm 19:3 and 4). These messages are written in the heavens in pictorial language for all to see.

*The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, And rejoices like a strong man to run its race. Its rising is from one end of heaven, And its circuit to the other end; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.* *Psalm 19:1–6*

Astronomical research bears witness to the message of a coming Redeemer who would be wounded for our transgressions, as well as His subsequent rise and return as the King of Glory. Chinese, Arabian, Indian, Egyptian, Greek, and Roman cultures all recognize that the author of this story has to be the Creator of the heavens and earth.

The anguished cry of Job, recorded in possibly one of the oldest known manuscripts in existence (the Book of Job), gives us a clue of mankind's ancient knowledge of this promise: "For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth" (Job 19:25). How could this man, who lived long before the time of Moses, have so strongly believed that he had a Redeemer who lived and would stand at last on the earth? The written Scriptures were not in existence yet. Adam, Seth, and Enoch had undoubtedly understood the message displayed in the night sky, as revealed to them by the Holy Spirit, and passed it down from generation to generation.

Jewish tradition, preserved by Josephus, assures us that this Bible astronomy was invented by Adam, Seth, and Enoch.<sup>2</sup> —E.W. Bullinger

Job knew this message and kept his eyes upon the heavens in the midst of his trials. With only these celestial revelations to guide him, he made his way through the storm.

Regardless of any tampering that could have occurred to the written Scriptures, it has been impossible for the message that sustained Job to have ever been touched by man. So, no matter how bad our afflictions may be now or in the future, we can be just as sure of our Redeemer's coming as Job was. The intensity of his anguish culminated in that cry of hope for the One who would pay for his weaknesses—and that should be the same cry of hope in our hearts.

## **Mankind's Need for a Redeemer**

From the time of man's fall, the need for redemption became clear. In our present atmosphere of moral decline, it is even more apparent. We all desperately need someone to pay for our shortcomings and weaknesses. Not only is this obvious to any logically sane person, but every book in the Bible testifies of it. The most ancient record of God—His revelation written in the heavens—testifies of it as well.

The Bible has over 150 usages of the word "redeem," or a derivative of it, and the heavens declare the same revelation. In the mouth of two witnesses the truth is established, and the written Scriptures of both the Bible and the heavenlies provide that witness to each other!

Only one individual in the history of the world fulfills the requirements of the One who could pay the price of redemption for imperfect man. Yeshua HaMashiach (Jesus the Christ) is the Son of the living God who was promised to be our Redeemer in the written Scripture *and* in the heavens. The wise men (magi) referred to the celestial message that brought them to Bethlehem as "His Star," for it announced the arrival of Jesus of Nazareth (Matthew 2:2), the King and Redeemer of the world.

One of the ways to see Jesus as our Redeemer is through an understanding of the redemptive names of God. A number of years ago, I initially heard of seven names (Jehovah-Jireh, Jehovah-Nissi, Jehovah-Shalom, Jehovah-Tsid-Kenu, Jehovah-Shammah, Jehovah-Sabaoth, and Jehovah-Raah), but soon learned that there are many more than these.

Yahweh (Jehovah) Ga'al, "the Lord our Redeemer," is one of the more prominently used redemptive names of God. It occurs 13 times in the Old Testament and reveals His true love and concern for His people. His great desire is to redeem us back out of the hand of the enemy and once again claim His rightful possession.

## **The Heavenly Story Line**

The heavenly story line of the coming Redeemer begins in the constellation Virgo, which reveals the virgin birth. He is then continuously displayed through the remainder of the 12 major constellations, ending with Leo. Leo (the lion) gives us a picture of the King returning to claim His prize. Along the ecliptic path of the sun, the story is told: the Lord (Yahweh) would send someone to pay the price for mankind's sins; this Redeemer would then become the King of Glory by giving His life (contrary to earthly kings who *take* lives).

The following list of the major 12 constellations speaks of either redemption through the Redeemer's sufferings or of His coming Kingdom. The subject of our Redeemer and coming King clearly develops as we trace the ecliptic path of the sun. This is the red thread of the heavens woven with His redemptive blood.

**Virgo (the virgin)**—Christ is the promised seed of the Redeemer.

**Libra (the scales)**—He is the price paid for redemption in the scales of justice.

**Scorpio (the scorpion)**—He is the wounded Redeemer (wounded by the enemy).

**Sagittarius (the archer)**—He is the victorious King returning after being wounded.

**Capricorn (the goat)**—He is the slain goat, as the scapegoat of redemption.

**Aquarius (the water urn)**—He is the one pouring out the blessings on the redeemed.

**Pisces (the fishes)**—He is the Redeemer of both Jews and Gentiles, tied together by the band of His sacrifice for all.

**Aries (the ram)**—He is the Ram of God, redeeming through His sacrificial blood, which was shed as the Passover Lamb.

**Taurus (the bull)**—He is the blood of the bull, as a profile of Old Testament offerings for redemption.

**Gemini (the twins)**—the twins, He is the triumphant Redeemer coming twice, once as a sacrifice and next as the King.

**Cancer (the crab)**—He is shown as the One holding onto the inheritance of the redeemed.

**Leo (the lion)**—He is the coming King to establish the kingdom He purchased with His own blood.

In a brief synopsis, the story line of the heavens proceeds from each of the major constellations to the next in the revelation of the coming Redeemer and King. This revelation was given

initially to the patriarchs and has since been somewhat shrouded by mythological figures and creatures. However, the truth of each constellation is still readable when viewed Christologically, which means seeing Christ in every constellation.

It is interesting that these 12 messages are divided equally into two revelations of the Redeemer—His sufferings (His death) and His glory (His coming kingdom).

### His Sufferings (His Death)

Libra  
Scorpio  
Capricorn  
Aries  
Taurus  
Cancer

### His Glory (His Coming Kingdom)

Virgo  
Sagittarius  
Aquarius  
Pisces  
Gemini  
Leo

Libra, Scorpio, Capricorn, Aries, Taurus, and Cancer show the price paid for redemption, while Virgo, Sagittarius, Aquarius, Pisces, Gemini, and Leo show the Redeemer coming in His glory.

Look at the balance and symmetry of both the revelation in the heavens and the revelation of the written Scripture. The second witness, the written Scriptures, combines His glory and His sufferings together in six New Testament verses.

- 1) Luke 24:26—Ought not the Christ to have **suffered** these things and to enter into His **glory**?
- 2) Hebrews 2:9a—But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels [*elohiym*], for the **suffering** of death crowned with **glory** and honor.
- 3) Hebrews 2:10—For it was fitting for Him . . . to make the author of their salvation **perfect** through **sufferings**.
- 4) 1 Peter 1:11b—He testified beforehand the **sufferings** of Christ and the **glories** that would follow.
- 5) 1 Peter 4:13—But rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ’s **sufferings**, that when His **glory** is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.
- 6) 1 Peter 5:1—The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the **sufferings** of Christ, and also a partaker of the **glory** that will be revealed.

## **Consequences of Neglecting the Redemptive Message**

As I have studied this heavenly revelation, a number of things have become evident to me. Humanity’s neglect of a redemptive message that rotates over their heads both day and night has its consequences.

**Jews.** The Jews, to whom the promise of redemption was entrusted, apparently set aside their heavenly message once they received the written law through Moses. Even though the written Scriptures testified of Jesus Christ (John 5:39), they dismissed the redemptive message of the

stars that would have witnessed it and eventually led them to His birth, as it did the magi (wise men). It took these “foreigners” to once again bring it to their attention. The Jews’ neglect and eventual denial of their promised Redeemer could be compared to a family vacation in which the packing becomes so detailed that the parents neglect the kids and drive off without them. Rather than admitting their mistake, they devise a way to get rid of their kids (as the Jewish religious leaders did with Jesus) to destroy the evidence of their impudence.

**Muslims.** Similarly, followers of Islam have no excuse to miss the Redeemer. While many Muslim clerics denounce the interpretation of celestial bodies for prophetic purposes, other Islamic scholars still study its messages and believe in its relevancy to their lives.<sup>3</sup> Although they study the very same heavens as we do, they miss out on the main message of a redeemer since they claim that god (Allah) has no son. Surah 112:1–4 in the Koran states: “Say: He is Allah, (the) One and Only. Allah, the Eternal, the Absolute. He begetteth not, nor was begotten, and there is none like unto him.”<sup>4</sup> The constellation Virgo testifies of the Son of the Creator and His coming to the earth; and while biblical astronomers begin their study of the constellations with Virgo, Islamic scholars begin theirs with Aires. Because of this, they have ignored the primary message of Virgo! They are hindered from accurately interpreting the remainder of the constellations, again leaving them without a redeemer. Mohammed did not die for them; he has no relevancy to fulfilling the Word of God written in the heavens.

**Gentiles.** Then there are the Gentiles who can obviously see from the creation that there is a Creator, yet they deny the person and accomplishments of Jesus Christ—even when the heavens testify of Him day after day and night unto night. All are without excuse!

*For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that **they are without excuse.***  
*Romans 1:18–20*

As clear as the written Scriptures are concerning the coming of Messiah, so have the heavens blatantly and boldly announced the coming of the Redeemer with His Star. At the same time the celestial announcement was observed, a supernova occurred in the decan Coma.<sup>5</sup> This was a fulfillment of a prophecy spoken by Balaam in 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.***  
*Numbers 24:17*

In addition, Persian history claims Zoroaster was a student of Daniel, and that Daniel had revealed to him that when a formerly unrevealed star appeared in the constellation Coma, it would be a sign that the King of kings had been born in the region of Jerusalem.<sup>6</sup>

Perhaps the most heart-breaking consequence of missing both the revelation in the heavens and in the written Scriptures is to remain within a sinful state, regardless of the belief system. This means that the Jews, Muslims, and Gentiles who have missed the message of redemption displayed in both forms will also miss the Redeemer's kingdom on earth. Without forgiveness and the hope of reconciliation with the Father, they remain forever burdened with the weight of their guilt and condemnation.

## Conclusion

The revelation of the Redeemer has been plastered all across the heavens as well as in the written Scriptures, making it the most obvious declaration in history. *No one has an excuse to miss it.* Sadly, there are some who have missed it because they've succumbed to the spiritual blindness instigated by the god of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4).

God's redemptive message has been brilliantly displayed in the heavens since the beginning of creation. It was revealed to mankind by the Holy Spirit and passed down from generation to generation. Yahweh sent His written Word to witness to its truth—that Yeshua *is* the Messiah, the promised seed of the woman. This message continues to shine in the hearts of those who have personally met Him and await His return, when they will reign with Him on earth for 1,000 years!

As the days grow darker and the time of His return draws nearer, we can cry out from our hearts the same words that Job did.

*But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and that he will stand upon the earth at last. And after my body has decayed, yet in my body I will see God! I will see him for myself. Yes, I will see him with my own eyes. I am overwhelmed at the thought!*

*Job 19:25–27 New Living Translation*

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## Notes

1. E.W. Bullinger, Appendix 12 “The Stars Also” of *The Companion Bible* accessed online at <http://levendwater.org/companion/append12.html> on December 14, 2009.

2. Ibid.

3. “Of the night and the day there are indeed Signs for men of understanding” The Koran, Sura 3.190. This is the verse in the Koran upon which those who support the reading of the heavens for prophetic reasons base their logic. The following quote was taken from “Constellations, Fixed Stars and the Zodiac in the Islamic Astronomy,” a September, 2004 publication by the Foundation for Science Technology and Civilisation, available in PDF at <http://www.muslimheritage.com/uploads/zodiac.pdf>, accessed April 8, 2010. “The concept of the zodiac, which before being adopted by Islamic civilization had been established in Greek, Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Indian and Chinese civilizations, was viewed from a new angle by Muslim observers, who based their views on verses in the Koran. Since Islam was a monotheistic faith, most Islamic scholars regarded that the signs of the zodiac [served] only as positions through which the sun and moon passed.” The next quote also comes from the same document:

“Although many Islamic scholars judged astrology to contravene religion, astronomers continued to interpret the heavens, and sultans to act on their advice. The office of chief astronomer (*munajjim*) instituted at the Ottoman court in the mid-fifteenth century combined astronomical observations for such purposes as drawing up annual calendars, and astrological functions. But the attitudes towards astrology of the Ottoman sultans varied. While some complied with tradition and consulted the chief astrologer from time to time, others dismissed astrology as contrary to both religious principles and reason.”

4. Yusuf Ali, A. *The Holy Qur'an (translation and commentary)*, (Indianapolis, IN: American Trust Publications, 1977)

5. Jim A. Cornwell, *The Alpha and the Omega*, chapter six, “The Star of Bethlehem and Coma Berenices” (820-page manuscript posted on Microsoft Network (MSN), Copyright © 1995, all rights reserved). This document can be viewed at <http://mazzaroth.com/ChapterSix/TheStarOfBethlehem.htm>, accessed April 15, 2010.

6. Ron Charles, *The Search—A Historian's Search for Historical Jesus* (Bloomington, IN: 1<sup>st</sup> Books Library, 2007), 153.

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