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## Christmas: The Hinge of Human History

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### THE PAST

1. **God Prepared (To Save Us from Our Sin Before Time Began)**
  - **Rev 13:8** - All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world**.
2. **Adam Sinned (Infecting All Mankind with Sin & Sin's Curse)**
  - **Gen 2:15-17** Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for **in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**"
3. **Prophets Foretold (God's Son Coming as Savior & Ruler)**
  - **Dan 9:25-26** "Know therefore and understand, [That] from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem **until Messiah the Prince**, [There shall be] seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times. 26 "And after the sixty-two weeks **Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself**; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it [shall be] with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

### THE PRESENT

4. **God's Son Became a Man (Deity Took on Flesh)**
  - **Luke 1:31-33** "And behold, **you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest**; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."
5. **God's Son Died for Our Sins (He Died in Our Place)**
  - **Rom 5:8-10** **But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.** 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies **we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son**, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.
6. **God's Son Rose from the Dead (Identity & Payment = TRUE)**
  - **Matt 28:6** "**He is not here; for He is risen, as He said.** Come, see the place where the Lord lay."

### THE FUTURE

7. **God's Son Departed to Prepare a Place for Believers:**
  - **John 14:1-3** "In My Father's house are many mansions; if [it were] not [so,] I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you.** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, [there] you may be also."
    - 147 – **How Great Thou Art** (verse 4 only)
8. **God's Son Will Return to Judge and to Rule**
  - **John 5:22** For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son,
  - **2 Tim 4:1** I charge [you] therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, **who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:**
  - **Heb 9:27** And as **it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,**
  - **Rev 19:11-16** Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him [was] called Faithful and True, and **in righteousness He judges and makes war.** 12 His eyes [were] like a flame of fire, and on His head [were] many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He [was] clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. **And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.** 16 And He has on [His] robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.
  - **Rev 20:12-13** And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is [the Book] of Life. And **the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.** 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And **they were judged, each one according to his works.**

### OUR RESPONSE

**John 3:16-18** "For **God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.** 17 "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.