Episode 9

The Purpose of the Christ incarnation

The author : Father Zakaria Boutros The publisher: <u>www.fatherzakaria.com</u> The purpose of the Christ Incarnation was the redemption of mankind

To understand that, let us go to the beginning:

The Holy Bible showed us a very essential fact about the creation of man

In proverb 8:11:"my delight was with the sons of Adam"

God's delight is with the sons of Adam, his joy and happiness is with man, from the very beginning, God created man in the best image, and the Holy Bible said that God created man in his image, and likeness

In the quran:"" We created man of the best stature" The fig chapter (Surat Al-tin) 4

God created man in his image and likeness as a sane creature in the most superior image

He could have created him strong as lion or pretty as spinner, but that's an animal, but he created him as a sane creature

The Holy Bible said that God is love; his heart is full of love towards his creation, especially man, who was created in his image

He created him and placed him in the garden of Aden , He made for him all ways of joy , as a spoiled child in the house of his loving father, with no worry, no sadness , that was the beginning

Satan envied man, for that estate he is enjoying, as Satan was an archangel then because of his pride he fall into sin, and was degraded from his rank

God said to Adam: "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 of it ; for in the day that you eat of it you will surely die."(Genesis 2:17)

In the quran also it was mentioned in the <u>cow chapter (Surat Al-Bagarah) 35- 38</u>: "O Adam! Dwell you and your wife in the Paradise and eat both oafs you freely with pleasure and delight of things therein as wherever you will, but come not near this tree or you both will be of the wrong-doers"

The beginning of the problem was from Here as Adam disobeyed the commandment of God

We are now confronted with two questions:

- 1- Why did God create Satan, and he knew that he will entice man to fall into sin and Disobey God?
- 2- Why did God create that tree while he knew that Adam will eat from it?

Why did God create Satan, and he knew that he will entice man to fall into sin and disobey God?

In fact, God didn't create Satan, God created angels, and Satan was an archangel, and he fall into sin

The Holy Bible mentioned the story of Satan falling in:

<u>Ezekiel 28:14 -19</u>: "You were anointed as a guardian cherub for so I ordained you: you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked among the fiery stones ,you were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till wickedness was found in you, Through your widespread trade, you were filled with violence, and you sinned: therefore I drove you as profane out of the mountain of God; and I have expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones ,your heart became proud because of your beauty; and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor, so I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings ,By your many sins and dishonest trade you have desecrated your sanctuaries; therefore I brought forth a fire from the midst of you, and it consumed you, and I have turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who were watching ,and All nations who knew you are appalled at you . You have come to a horrible end"

And in <u>Isaiah 14:12-15</u>:" How you have fallen from heaven, O day-star, son of the morning! How you have cut down to the ground, you who once laid low the nations! And you said in your heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; and I will sit upon the mount of congregation, in the uttermost parts of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High. Yet you are brought down to the grave, to the uttermost parts of the pit"

Satan fall from his glorious rank as archangel and became Satan, he found Adam in his glory, so he envied him

In genesis 3: it was mentioned that Satan went to Eve, as she was ambitious to know everything, he told her: did God really tell you not to eat of all the garden trees?, she said: No He said to us: Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat, but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God said, You shall not eat of it, neither shall you touch it, lest you die, he said to her why that tree specifically, You shall not die, as God is malicious, he is afraid that if you eat of that tree , you will be like him, and so the woman ate of the tree and she gave her husband, so he ate also, so both of them were partners in sin

Why did God create that tree while he knew that Adam will eat from it?

God created all the creatures of animals, fishes, birds and trees with no mind to think, but He created man a sane creature, he had the mind by which he can judge on everything, he created him with ability to choose having the free will to choose And in order to have the freedom of choice, to choose this and refuse that, there must be a point of test, a choosing option, to choose either to live with God in happiness, or to eat from the tree and be separated from God

In the beginning of my service ,I visited a rich man working as an inspector of irrigation in a rural area , he had a boy 17 years old , he was handicapped , fully dependant on

others in eating ,drinking, sleeping and everything, the man was angry from God of putting him is such temptation ,one day he had a dream , he was walking in the farm in an area where he cut the irrigation for that land, the owners of that land came to him intending to kill him, the mayor of that village saw them coming to kill the man, he stopped them saying, hold on , leave him for the sake of his handicapped boy, and he was rescued from death because of his boy, in the morning when he waked up , he hugged his boy and thanked God

God created the mind for man, by which he can choose to live with God with all his will, so he put for him the tree of the knowledge of good and evil as a testing point

One day an atheist went to a priest and told him, that tree of the knowledge of good and evil is the cause of our misery till now, the priest tried to explain to him that concept of being a testing point for man, but he was refusing to listen , the priest asked him to come for dinner, the man accepted, they sat around the dinning table, the priest put on the table a dish with its cover on top , and he left the man alone for a while, the man looked around he was alone , and curiously he lifted the cover of the dish trying to know what is inside, suddenly a rat jumped over him from the dish, the priest came and saw that , and told him, I covered the dish , why did you uncover it? , that's the testing point for obedience

In <u>genesis 3:6</u>:"And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasing to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make wise, she took of its fruit, and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate, and the eyes of both of them were opened. And they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made girdles for themselves"

In <u>Ta- ha (Surat Ta- ha) chapter 120,121</u>:"Then Satan whispered to him, saying: "O Adam! Shall I lead you to the Tree of Eternity and to a kingdom that will never waste away? Then they both ate of the tree, and so their private parts appeared to them, and they began to stick on themselves the leaves from Paradise for their covering. Thus Adam disobeyed his Lord, so he went astray"

God created man with love, man practiced the freedom of his will, so he deliberately fell into sin. That sin deserved punishment, and that punishment necessitated the redemption

When man had sinned, his image was mutilated, and the union with God turned into separation from him, and the righteousness and sanctity turned into impurity and that necessitated the redemption