

THE THREE SISTERS

Robert Perkins

I found out recently that my ancestry includes Native Americans. My people were accomplished farmers and believed in planting three inseparable plants together: corn, green beans, and squash – called The Three Sisters. They planted beans with corn because beans are nitrogen fixers. Beans take nitrogen from the atmosphere and add it to the soil, thus fertilizing the corn plant. The squash have big, broad leaves which serve to shade the soil and inhibit the growth of life sapping weeds. At the time of harvest, my people would have good crops of corn, beans, and squash.

This is similar to the needs of a new Christian. He needs the association with plants that can help him grow and make him better. Some Christians can help new Christians by helping them learn about God and give advice and encouragement. Other Christians can serve new Christians by providing them with new beneficial associations that replace the old sinful friends who have a tendency to pull new Christians back into their old destructive lifestyles. In addition, something wonderful and mysterious happens: the older, more mature Christians become energized and stronger – synergism.

Christians are mutually responsible to each other so God's crop of people can grow and be plentiful and be fruitful. What a wonderful plan God has; don't neglect it.

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the fact is not lost on that all of these dreams were given to Joseph! Though the Bible does not record a single word Joseph spoke, it is evident that God was speaking to Joseph through dreams!

All four dreams served one purpose. The purpose of the dreams was to preserve the Savior so that He could save the world! From the first dream to the last, each one served to make sure that Jesus would be able to do the work He was supposed to do on earth (Luke 19:10; John 17:4). It was not God's will for Christ to die by Herod's hand (John 18:36-37)! It also was not fitting for Joseph and Mary to raise Jesus in Egypt! Therefore, God sent dreams to Joseph to spare Jesus and save the world from sin. What a wonderful and humbling truth when we consider the power of these dreams!

God was involved in every aspect of man's salvation. He promised a

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OPEN AND SHUT CASE FOR CREATION

Author Unknown

Dead clams, like many other sea creatures, have much to tell us about the flood of Noah's time. Clams are bivalve mollusks. They have two valves that are hinged together, and they can close their shells very quickly to protect themselves from predators. When a clam dies of natural causes, the clam releases its grip on its shell, and it opens within a matter of hours. But if a buried clam shell is found shut tight, it shows that the clam was buried suddenly.

We mention this because fossil clam graveyards are found all over the world, even on mountain tops, containing millions of clams with their shells shut tight. This speaks of a catastrophe that buried billions of clams very quickly. In other words, the worldwide flood of Noah's time. Since these fossil clam beds are found all over the world, and are often high above their natural habitat, it can only mean that the biblical worldwide flood is a fact of history.

If the Bible is right about the worldwide flood, the Earth is much younger than it appears to be, so there simply isn't enough time for evolution to take place. Graveyards of closed clams have given us an open-and-shut case for biblical creation!

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Savior (Genesis 3:15). He planned for our Savior to come to this world through a family (Genesis 12; Matthew 1; Luke 3). He added a law until the "seed" should come to this earth (Galatians 3:19). Further, He made sure that Christ came to this world at the right time (Galatians 4:4). When our Lord came to this world, the chief priests, scribes, and the wise men recognized that this was exactly what God had promised would come to pass (Matthew 2:1-12).

Therefore, the four dreams Joseph had were entirely in keeping with the character of God. He was again making sure that His Son, "the seed," would come into this world and would be spared so as to live on this earth and then be that sacrifice for men (Revelation 13:8). I stand amazed, because in preserving Christ in those early days, He was also making sure Christ died on the cross! On the other hand, by preserving Christ in those early days, God was making sure I could have the opportunity to be saved from sin (Matthew 20:28; Isaiah 53)! What love! What mercy! What blessing! What a God! What a Savior!

**"WHAT MUST I DO
TO BE SAVED?"**

ACTS 16:30

LEARN THE GOSPEL

John 6:45; Romans 10:17

BELIEVE IN CHRIST

Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16

CONFESS CHRIST

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

REPENT OF SIN

Acts 3:19; 17:30

BE BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST

Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-6

REMAIN STEADFAST

1st Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

**"THE ASSEMBLING OF
OURSELVES TOGETHER"**

HEBREWS 10:24-25

SUNDAY

Worship @ 10:00 a.m.

Studies @ 11:45 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Studies & Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

75 Sherrod Boulevard

Belén, New Mexico

Seekers Welcome.

Members Expected.

**"IF A MAN IS OVERTAKEN IN
ANY TRESPASS...
RESTORE SUCH A ONE"**

GALATIANS 6:1

CONFESS TRESPASSES

James 5:16; 1st John 1:9

REPENT OF SIN

Acts 8:22

PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS

Acts 8:22

REMAIN STEADFAST

1st Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

**"A WORD FITLY SPOKEN IS
LIKE APPLES OF GOLD IN
SETTINGS OF SILVER"**

PROVERBS 25:11

"It is absurd for the evolutionist to complain that it is unthinkable for an admittedly unthinkable God to make everything out of nothing and then pretend that it is more thinkable that nothing should turn itself into everything."

– G.K. Chesterton

"WHOLE COUNSEL"

ACTS 20:27

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JOSEPH'S FOUR DREAMS

Jarrod Jacobs, adapted

Joseph had four dreams before and after the birth of Christ.

"But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins'" (Matthew 1:20-21).

"Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him'" (Matthew 2:13).

"But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 'Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead'" (Matthew 2:19-20).

"But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: 'He shall be called a Nazarene'" (Matthew 2:22-23).

Realizing that the Catholic world places undue emphasis upon Mary,
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