



**A UNIQUE
AND FRIGHTENING MEETING**
About
THE BABY IN A MANGER



Queen Mary & Prince Tadros
Coptic Orthodox Church
Pope Shenouda III Center
243 DAVIDSON'S MILL ROAD
SOUTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08851

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FR. TADROS Y. MALATY

Translated by:
Committee of
Queen Mary and Prince Tadros
Coptic Orthodox Church
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THE BABY IN A MANGER AND THE STRANGE MEETING

The Church Fathers often address the role of the Baby of the manger in the lives of the believers, which transforms us into a joyful bride that through her heavenly Bridegroom (Jesus) can resist the forces of darkness, sin, evil, and Satan himself. St. Jacob of Serugh was the one who had pictured the reaction of the kingdom of Satan to the Birth of this glorious Child.

St. Jacob of Serugh recorded a memoir depicting in his deep spiritual sense, his rich imagination, and his intriguing style, a serious meeting revolving around the Baby of the manger. The attendees of this gathering are all the devils, and among them their leader himself (Satan). They realized the potential consequences and the impact on the kingdom of darkness after the manifestation of the Word of God.

I feel obliged to publish this memoir and my commentary, so we can appreciate the powers that we possess in the Baby of the manger to resist the kingdom of darkness, leaving no room for it among us. This is a memoir that touches our lives, triumphs, and glories in Christ our Master, the Conqueror of evil and Grantor of all goodness.

Through this recording we are to experience the promise of our Lord Himself when He said: “Do not fear my little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”[Luke 12:32].

SATAN LEADS A FRIGHTENING MEETING

St. Jacob begins the memoir with Satan’s brief initial speech that revealed his tremendous confusion, and his utter lack of ability to logically analyze what had happened to him and his kingdom. Satan saw the glorious Baby in a manger as his Conqueror.

1. He is the Word of God, **the Living Consuming Fire** [Deut 4:24]. Despite being the One wrapped in clothes, the

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**Queen Mary & Prince Tadros
Coptic Orthodox Church
Pope Shenouda III Center
283 DAVIDSONS MILL ROAD
SOUTH BRUNSWICK, NJ 08831**

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devils tremble before Him, as he transforms them from thorns and puncture vines into fire and ashes.

2. He is the flock Shepherd who became a **Lamb** that scared the wolves, and even if it devoured Him. He would had destroyed their stomach and tear it into pieces!

3. He is the Light that shines all over the world eliminating Satan's darkness.

Satan met with his evil angels to confer about this remarkable Baby in a manger, who spoiled their plans. What did occur in this meeting? And what did they decide to do?

❖ Satan [the evil one] said: "The lightning has struck me, and I had no prior knowledge of it. I am a successful, clever in all that is harmful, yet incapable of leading my way in the light. I despise the Light, and would rather meet with you all in darkness forever. I realize that the Light reveals our wickedness, causing all mankind to despise our works and avoid it". He continued;" The wicked words cannot work in the lit up paths, so do not allow the light to shine, lest we may be cast out from all places."

St. Jacob of Serugh

THE DEVILS DEMAND CLARIFICATION FROM THEIR LEADER

For the first time the devils were shocked and dismayed by their leader Satan, whom they considered to be the strongest of all creations. He appeared extremely weak and incapable, which made them realize the extent of the disastrous situation they were in. They could not bear to remain quiet any longer, so they asked him to provide answers, and clarify the situation.

❖ The wicked spirits asked:

What do we do? You are our teacher, and we work according to your teachings.



Who else besides you that would educate us, on the dangers of the Light that is about to destroy us?

Satan replied saying: "This is not the time for extended arguments. Allow me to look into the matter that terrifies me just as much. Relax for some time, and I will go and search for the source of this Light and where it appeared from. I will roam the lands, fly the skies, and descend into the depths, searching far and near, up and down. I will travel by air, through the seas, the hemispheres, and the lands.

St. Jacob of Serugh

AN AMAZING ANGELICAL SCENE

Satan felt obligated to leave the meeting to look into the disaster that took place, lest the other devils lose their confidence in him. He witnessed a terrifying scene. What did he see?

❖ He saw Bethlehem in the distance, and a glorious angel appearing above it. The bright glow of the angel illuminated, and he was transformed into an exceedingly bright form.

When Satan saw this, he hid from it out of fear.

He stared to see where the angel was headed. Here is what he saw;

The angel appeared to flock Shepherds, and began to preach the salvation of the entire world. They were modest people, who tend to their flock every day, who just began to learn about the great news from the angel.

He told them: "I bear great news for the whole world from the daughter of David will come the Redeemer Christ the Lord; a Baby in Bethlehem, wrapped in cloths, lying in a modest manger, He is the Redeemer God."

As he finished his sayings, multitude of angels appeared to praise. They turned the darkness of the night into daylight, for their glow was brighter than the sunlight. The



earth shook and trembled from their glorious praises on their tongues. It is an appropriate joyous singing in a beautiful tone, coming out of amazing mouths, hummed in an amazing tune that enflames the soul. They are the heavenly angels praising and glorifying the Light that appeared and conquered the darkness.

St. Jacob of Serugh

SATAN ADMITS THE EXTENT OF THE DISASTER

Satan could not bear the heavenly scene, and realized that the situation is extremely dangerous, which he had not witnessed since he was created. So, he retreated quietly much like a thief, hoping to go unnoticed. When he returned back to his followers, he was unsure of how to inform them with the destruction that he anticipated for all of them. He realized that the Baby of the manger is the reason behind the joy of the heavenly, and surely he will provide to mankind what is beyond comprehension. He also realized that all his trickery and deceit will be revealed before mankind, and his kingdom will no longer exist among the faithful.

❖ Satan returned to his angels bearing his misery and anguish, as his mouth was full of bitterness and sad news.

Come and see he said, the calamity that had occurred in Bethlehem, for it is the place for our destruction. If this situation does not change, we ought to flee. Otherwise, my wickedness is revealed, I will be despised, and you all will perish.

Come and listen to the multitudes of the angels in Bethlehem. The earth shook from the sound of their praising.

Come and watch the heavenly crowd from afar, lest their bright light blind us all.

I saw the Baby wrapped in cloths, laying quietly, without anything special to His appearance such as glow, or greatness.



The stunned forces of the wickedness were shattered, as they were unsure what to say about this Baby. When they gathered their courage to undermine His humility, they saw His mother's virginity, and wailed out of wonder and amazement.

The devils said to Satan: "Explain to us this child. Is He human? Or, is He God? Is He from above or below? Is He one of the heavenly or mankind?"

St. Jacob of Serugh

SATAN ADMITS HIS IGNORANCE, AND INCAPABILITY, YET WITHOUT REPENTANCE

The devils were accustomed to see in their leader Satan much pride, and arrogance. He also considered himself the only wise one, the teacher who knew it all, the knowledgeable one, the one aware of all secrets, and the one unmatched by any other creation. However in this instance, risking potential humiliation before his angels, he felt obligated to acknowledge his ignorance, and utter inability to discern what had just happened.

Looking back at the extreme joy that filled Satan at the fall of Adam and Eve, and now how He awaits the birth of each and every newborn, proclaiming the infant as one of his slaves; one who would not be free from his bondage. As the newborn screams for the first time, Satan records his name in his kingdom. However this Newborn is utterly unique, not like all the others. His mother is a virgin, but she nurses Him. The devils wondered: How could this be?

Confused; who is this Baby born without the seed of man? And, who is His father? Is He the Son of God; The One born without seed of man? But, how come He has human body and soul? Satan wished for Him to be just a human.

❖ Satan said: "I was wise, but now I am not. I know nothing. Since the days of Cain, not one baby is born without my



knowledge. I take pride in the verdict against Eve, every time I hear a mother's suffering through birth labor. This child's secret has been concealed from me, and I cannot figure it out. When the girl conceived, I had no knowledge of it. Later, when she delivered, I was not present to witness this event to see Him.

Now, she remains a virgin, and her Baby; what can I say about Him? He surprisingly frightens me, and I don't know why. Since Eve, until the daughter of the Hebrews, not one virgin nursed her own newborn. Because she is a virgin, I believe that He is God. On the other hand, because He is incarnate, I desire for Him to be human. In any case, this Baby is beyond my comprehension.

His mother remains a virgin, so who is His father? If He is an earthly one, whose son is He? For, I do not know where His father is?

St. Jacob of Serugh

THE DEVIL'S CONFUSION

The devils realized the collapse of their kingdom with the coming of the Savior of the world. They no longer trusted Satan, and demanded that he acts quickly. How could a Baby rattle their kingdom? What would happen when He grows older and stronger? Satan's foolishness and ignorance were obvious. His entire kingdom was confused anticipating the breakdown and the deep bitterness that is inevitable.

❖ The devils said to Satan: "What can we say about this Child? If His birth was not revealed to you, then who will keep us informed? You are clever, wise, educated and knowledgeable, in addition to being the lead evil one.

A Child has prevailed over all your greatness, what would He do to us? He conquered all your might. What would happen when He meets you?

If you wait patiently on this Child, He will not only claim your crown, but will destroy your throne as well. He



will demolish the statutes, tear down the idols, remove the sacrifices, and uproot the altars of Idolatry .He will destroy the temples, stop the divinations, and all the idols' temples will vanish. All your works have been revealed through His birth, and when He grows up, He will chase us out of all places. What a disaster!!

From this day on, the earth will be illuminated by His glow, and soon the hearts will be filled with the joy of His light. We are doomed for He will reveal our wicked nature, and will destroy us. The earth will follow Him, and will mock us!

St. Jacob of Serugh

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE LAND OF PERSIA

St. Jacob of Serugh imagined one of Satan's falling angels interrupting the meeting to announce the journey of the kings to visit this unique Child King. All the devils were shocked and disturbed at the submission of the wise men to this child is not any less dangerous than the apparition of the heavenly hosts, and speaking to the poor Hebrew Shepherds. This was a sign that the Gentile Nations will join the Hebrews to become one nation led by one good Shepherd (Christ). This is most frightening news for Satan to accept; "a true spirit of unity among the believers"!

❖ The forces of the devil were stunned, when they received the fearsome news from Persia that disturbed them even further.

He said to them: "I left Assyria when I saw this unusual scene. I saw a great star planet, with its light source not from space, lighting up the skies and illuminating it."

The wise men of Persia gathered, and said: "A King, a conqueror has appeared in Judea, and here are the Magus offering Him their oblations. I rushed and proceeded to see who He is, as His coming seems to be a serious matter. If we did not make a plan quickly, He will wipe out our



power, and cause us to be ridiculed and mocked.

St. Jacob of Serugh

SATAN'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Satan had no choice but to request from the gathered devils not to rush. He feared for his image before them, despite being impacted already. He attempted to reassure his falling angels that he has numerous tricks to ruining the works of this new Baby.

❖ Satan said: "I could not proceed to see Him, for He has a great force that terrifies me. Let us all calm down, for indeed He is stronger than we are, but we can find the opportunity to cause conflict and create chaos. I cannot ignore Him, or stop watching every move He makes. Now no one else besides Him interests me. Let us all wait until the wise men arrive, then we can cease the opportunity.

I will prepare a sword and resentment for Herod the king. I will make him envious as I reveal to him that the Baby Boy will become King, and will take over his kingdom. I will mix the jealousy in his cup of wine to drink, so he will sharpen the dagger for the Newborn. I have tricks, traps, lies, and deception. I will not ignore the matter or relax. I will not leave the Child until I overcome.

The Child lays in peace, but the devils are petrified.

Mary was meek, the Baby was calm, and Joseph was humbled. The devils were disturbed for they witnessed what made them tremble. They panicked when they saw the Son of the virgin.

Satan froze in his place as he knelt down alongside his angels before the Baby.

All his forces shook out of fear, and wailed in amazement, as they watched closely the virgin nursing her Baby Boy.

The Fruit of the womb was conceived without seed of man which terrified them, and so did the ever-virgin

motherly embrace. The Baby lying in a manger was feared by the heavenly, and affected the Babylonians with His glow.

St. Jacob of Serugh

SATAN'S DECEPTION IN TRICKING THE HEBREWS

St. Jacob of Serugh sees that Satan had no choice but to pretend to submit to the Baby, while holding extreme hatred and animosity towards Him. He had Judea follow in his footsteps, pretending to search for the Redeeming Messiah, while hoping to get rid of Him.

❖ The evil one said: "I can handle the Child, and defeat Him by my deceitful tricks. The Jewish Nation is also loyal to me; she despises the truth like I do, and is the slayer of the righteous ones. She sheds their blood, and aims her weapon towards them. I will teach her deception, and command her to lie. She molded the fatted calf at the hands of Aaron, humiliated Moses, and threw Jeremiah in the den. We will lift up the daughter of Jerusalem before the Child, to meet Him while she is filled with deceit.

St. Jacob of Serugh

A JOYFUL CLOSING SONG OF PRAISE

St. Jacob of Serugh closes the memoire with a joyful song of praise to present to the Baby of the manger, who destroyed the kingdom of evil, reconciled the heavenly creatures with mankind, and people with all nations.

❖ An amazing statement; while the Baby lay quietly, wrapped in His cloths, the forces of the left were in extreme agony. Through His birth, our Lord entered the creation, illuminating it, and the devils were unaware of His whereabouts. Through His birth, He reconciled the heavenly with mankind, and made peace between the exalted and the earthly ones.





He taught both mankind and the angels songs of praises. Serenity is in the highest and peace is in the depth. Through His birth, the heavenly are overjoyed, and the lowly are pleased. All the creation is delighted in the Son that came to shine His light on it.

The angels are rejoicing, and mankind is ecstatic, while the devils are grieving for they have seen the Light that blinds them. The heavens glorified, and the earth rejoiced, the lands trembled, when the Light appeared from the land of Bethlehem on the entire creation.

The wise men traveled to offer their presents, and the shepherds came with their praise and adoration.

Mary was joyous in her Baby Son who filled the creation with His joy and gladness. Glory be to the Father who sent the Light to the whole world.

St. Jacob of Serugh

THE MESSENGER STAR

The Word of God sent a peaceful messenger to preach and announce the good news using the language of light that guided the wise men with its bright glow.

❖ What was the purpose behind sending this star? Why did it attract the attention of the wise men with its bright light? Why did not He send a prophet as He did to Nineveh? Or, spread the word by an evangelist such as the Son of Amittai (Jonah)? Why did not He come and teach them as Isaiah that the virgin will conceive, and give birth to a King without marriage?

Why did not He open the gates of the prophecies, and call the wise men through the Divine signs?

For what purpose did the star appear? And, how did it announce the birth of Jesus Christ?

A quiet messenger, who did not utter a word, but rather used its glow to relay the message, How was it received?

Why did the star take the place of a prophet?

❖ The strong wise men knelt to the ground praising Him, while the virgin mother pondered the scene in her heart.

The blessed mother spoke to the wise men that knelt down before her Son, saying:

“O people, how do you see Him as a King? Who sent you? Reveal your secret to me. Who told you about His kingdom? What royal court do you see here that submits to Him? Where is His crown if He is a King as you say? As you can see, poverty does not part ways from Him, for I am a poor and modest mother.

Where are the multitudes of people that should surround Him? How about the soldiers that must be outside His door to protect Him? Are there many sword bearers present here? And, how about the many knights do you see any now?

How about His servants, where are they? Have you seen Gold or Silver as in the royal courts? Does He have wealth and power to honor Him? Did you meet any delegations from other nations coming to kneel before Him? Are the lines of loyal subjects extended outside? How about His army? If His throne is so great; where are His wonderful chariots?

Does His attire sparkle? Do you see the precious stones adorn His crown?

What makes Him appear to you as a King? Who commanded you to offer Him these gifts, gold, myrrh and frankincense?

I was not married to become a mother. Yet, I remain a virgin despite giving birth to Him.

I have not experienced the women’s labor pains, and now I gave birth in holiness discreetly. I never knew a man; rather I accepted the conception without seed of man or marriage. A heavenly messenger announced to me the

amazing news, and I conceived without a man, and remained undefiled.

The blessed St. Mary added; I asked him: "How could this be?" He explained saying: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you with holiness, and you will deliver a Child, whose reign is forever and ever."

I accepted the conception filled with wonders, and gave birth to a King, unnoticed by anyone but you.

I have been mistreated for His sake, so you are to be my witnesses, so I can show my face to my offenders, and scorn them. You have come from faraway lands, and should speak of what you have witnessed to the nearby people. Rebuke them, so they can testify that He is the Son of God. Shout in the ears of the mute and deaf nation, so they can hear and appreciate the good news."

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