

“The Devil is Blinded from God’s Plan ” (Mary of Agreda)

500. The Word of God came into the world as a visible Man and He came in order to give light (rainbow) and life to all those that were in darkness and in the shadows of death.

Lk 1:78 through the tender mercy of our God, when the day shall dawn upon us from on high

1:79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”



If the foreknown who are not rewritten in the Book of life stumbled and hurt themselves on this cornerstone, (referring to the light that came into the world), seeking ruin. Rather they could and should have found resurrection to an eternal life.

Rom 9:30 What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, righteousness through faith;

9:31 but that Israel who pursued the righteousness which is based on law did not succeed in fulfilling that law.

9:32 Why? Because they did not pursue it through faith, but as if it were based on

works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone.



Not the fault of the stone, but of those that made of it an occasion of scandal and of harm to themselves. Only for hell the birth of the infant God was terrible, since He was the strong and invincible One, who came to despoil that armed enemy.

Ps 24:8 Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

In order to destroy the devil, it was befitting, that the coming of the Word should be hidden from the devil. Because of the devil’s malice he was unworthy to be informed of the mysteries of the divine wisdom; but it was just that the malice of this enemy called the devil should be blinded and confused.

Wis 2:21 Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray, for their wickedness blinded them,

2:22 and they did not know the secret purposes of God, nor hope for the wages of holiness, nor discern the prize for blameless souls;

Lucifer and his fallen angels were left in ignorance of many things, concerning the Word become Man. For if the devil had known for certain, that Christ was the true God, Lucifer evidently would not have stirred the Jews to kill Jesus, but he would have sought to prevent it,

1 cor 2:8 None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

Concerning the mystery of the Nativity Lucifer knew only that most holy Mary had given birth to a Son in poverty and in a forsaken cave, and that She had not found lodging and shelter in Bethlehem; also that the Child was circumcised and otherwise treated as mere man. All of which was planned to mislead Lucifer's pride. Lucifer was ignorant of the manner of Jesus' birth, and of the virginity of the blessed Mother before and after the birth. Likewise Lucifer was ignorant of the message of the Angels to the just, and to the shepherds; of their conversations, and of their adoration of the infant God. Nor did Lucifer see the star, nor did he know the purpose of the kings in coming to Bethlehem, although he saw them make the journey and attributed it to some worldly enterprise. The demons were also unable to account for the changes in

the elements, the stars and planets; though they well perceived these changes and wonderful effects. They misjudged the words of the Magi in the presence of Herod, their arrival at the stable and the adoration, and the gifts offered. Lucifer perceived the fury of Herod against the children and encouraged it; yet they did not understand his reasoning and they stirred up Herod's cruelty. Although Lucifer suspected that Herod was seeking to kill the Messiah, he considered him crazy. *For in Lucifer's pride he obstinately held fast to the opinion that the Word, upon entering into the world would set up His kingdom, would not come humbly and in a hidden manner, but with visible power and majesty.* While in reality the infant God chose a far different way, being born of a Mother poor and despised by men.

The reader must know that the demons are not Satan and Satan is not the demons. The demons knew Jesus was the Messiah.

502. Thus misled, Lucifer, having noticed some of the strange events connected with the Nativity, called together his helpers in hell, and said to them: "I do not find any occasion for fear in the events which we have noticed in the world. It is true, the Woman whom we persecuted so much, has given birth to a Son, but in such poverty and neglect, that She could not even procure a lodging-place in order to be delivered. We know all this to be far from the power and greatness of God. If He is to advance against us as weak as we have seen this Child and as we have assured

ourselves concerning It, He certainly can make no headway against our power. We need not fear that He is the Messiah, since there is even a plot to kill Him as being mortal like the rest of men. This does not seem to point to the salvation of the world, since He Himself seems to stand in need of atonement. All these signs conflict with the purpose of the Messiah in coming into the world and therefore it seems to me, that we can rest assured, that He has not yet come.” The ministers of evil approved of the decision of their chief and they were all satisfied, that the Messiah had not yet come, for they were all part of the malice and pride which made them blind like Lucifer. It never occurred to satan in his vanity and pride, that the majesty and greatness of God should humiliate itself. The devils sought after applause, ostentation, reverence and exaltation, wishing if possible to appropriate all honor to themselves. Since God had all the power to force honor upon Himself, it never entered their minds, that He would consent to the contrary and subject Himself to humiliation, and this humiliation was so much hated by the spirits of evil.

503. Wow to all those who love vanity! What examples are not here given to you for your enlightenment! Great is the lesson, which the humility of Christ, our Teacher and our highest Good, teaches and urges upon us: but if this does not move us, let the pride of Lucifer at least deter and frighten us. O vice, O sin, dreadful beyond human imagination; since it confused Lucifer. O unhappy and most foolish Lucifer! It is evident, O

Lucifer, *that you are shut out from truth* and but an ignorant guide for the blind.

Mt 15:14 Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if a blind man leads a blind man, both will fall into a pit.”

504. All these errors and insanities of Lucifer and his fallen angels were known to the Mother of wisdom and our Mistress. With a just appreciation of such high mysteries Mary praised and blessed the Lord, because He had concealed them from the proud and arrogant and revealed them to the poor and humble.

Mt 11:25 At that time Jesus declared, “I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes;

11:26 yea, Father, for such was Your gracious will.

11:27 All things have been delivered to Me by My Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him.

The kind Mother offered up heart felt prayers for all men, who *on account of their faults were unworthy of seeing the light*, which for their salvation had appeared in the world. She reminded Her most sweet Son with incomparable compassion and love for sinners. *In these affections She spent most of the time of Her stay in the cave of the Nativity.* But as this place was bare of all comfort and much exposed to the cold winds of winter, the great Lady was most concerned for the shelter of Her tender and sweet Child. As a most prudent

Mother She had brought along a blanket, with which She covered Him in addition to the ordinary swaddling-clothes. Moreover She held Him continually in the embrace of Her sacred arms, except at times, when, in order to make Saint Joseph happy, She asked him to hold his God made Man in his arms and serve Him as a father.