

Unbelievable

December 18, 2022

Think about how many times we use the expression, Unbelievable.

- An offensive lineman runs 95 yards for a touchdown on a kickoff return
- A wind storm packing 100 mph winds
- An unfavorable medical diagnosis
- A family tragedy
- The bagging of a trophy buck
- The new boss that sends the organization in a spin
- Laws enacted that are so opposite of God's laws
- A kind deed at the most opportune time
- Relationships – both amazing and disastrous
- Toxic levels of Lead and Cadmium discovered in Hershey's dark chocolate bars

The word "unbelievable" is an adjective with the definition: Not able to be believed, unlikely to be true – the statement, circumstance, event, or relationship is so incredible and extraordinary, it is simple hard to accept as truth, to believe. Simply improbable.

I read an article on the internet, 50 truths so unbelievable you will think we're lying. I won't bore you with the them, as tempted as I am.

But in every one of these scenarios that I have stated, and I am certain in the ones that you are thinking yourself, there is evidence or there are witnesses that substantiate the truth, or we have seen it for ourselves.

This time of year, is a worldwide reminder of an event that could be described as unbelievable. The miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit, of a baby boy named Jesus. The news of this conception to the mother, Mary, was unbelievable, in fact she initially responded in Luke 1:34. "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" As the baby grew and developed in the womb, the fact was undeniable. We know baby Jesus was born as prophesied, there were witnesses. He grew up into a man and became tempted in every manner as we are, and yet he did not sin. Hebrews 4:15. That is incredible, unbelievable, a man tempted and yet without sin? This truth was necessary for Jesus to be found blameless, without fault, stain, or wrinkle. This has to be true, because he became the lamb of God, and the requirements for a lamb of one year old had to be of absolute purity to be eligible for sacrifice. Jesus was 33 years old, but without sin.

The fact that someone so perfect and sinless would die for a world full of sinners is unbelievable, incredible, amazing (We sing songs like "Amazing Love" and "I stand amazed in the presence of Jesus, the Nazarene, and wonder how he could love me.....)

The death by crucifixion of Jesus is so unbelievable, incredible, but true. There were witnesses. There is archeological evidence. Other historians wrote about Jesus. The fact that He made it possible to be at peace with God, and not fear death, because we have confidence through Jesus. Confidence that we will be presented to God "holy and blameless and beyond reproach" Colossians 1:22, when we meet him face to face, because of Jesus' death.

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John 20:29

After Thomas was able to feel Jesus' wounds, he declared "My Lord and my God". Jesus then said to Thomas, because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who did not see me, and yet believed.

We have not witnessed this amazing, incredible, unbelievable life and death of Jesus. But we believe the witnesses whom the Holy Spirit inspired to record these events.

We are here this morning to remember the amazing, incredible, unbelievable love of God, manifested to us through Jesus' birth, his life, his death and his resurrection.

Prayer:

Father in Heaven, thank you for the amazing love that you have shown us through Jesus. As we partake of this communion today, help us focus on Jesus' life, death, and resurrection and the hope that we through Him. Bless the unleavened bread and fruit of the vine that reminds us of His sinless body and shed blood. We ask your forgiveness for the times we have disobeyed and sinned against you.

In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.