

Jesus Appearances in the Old Testament

All Scripture is KJV: 1 John 5:7

INTRODUCTION: WHAT DOES THE BIBLE HAVE TO SAY

1 John 5:7 King James Version (KJV)

⁷ For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

What I would like to preach on this morning is on the subject of the appearances of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament.

These days the doctrine of Jesus Christ is coming and more under attack, in which they will either say that Jesus is not God, or they will say that Jesus and the Father are one and the same person?

- ✓ Now is it just me, or can you see it also?

The bible is very specific as to who Jesus is and it is also very specific as to who the Father is also. But yet many people like the Jesus only movement will not make that distinction, and will either say that Jesus and the Father are one and the same? Or they will say that Jesus has replaced the father.

Others again will deny Jesus as Christ the Messiah, and say that he is not God, but only Gods Son as do the JW's and many other cults like that who were all born out of the 1800's like Joseph smith and the Mormons, who say that you can become Gods.

Well what I want to show you this morning is that all these ways of thinking are biblically wrong, and I also want to show you that Jesus, and the Father and the Holy Ghost whilst they are all part of the Godhead and are one, but yet they are separate personalities. In other words as the bible claims, these three are one?

So let's begin in 1 John 5:7. Which tells us that **For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.**

- ✓ So according to this scripture there are three that are now in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.
- ✓ And not only are these three in heaven, the bible says that they are one?
- ✓ This is where we get the word "trinity" from which simply means "three".

But what I want to show you this morning is that it was always like this. Jesus was always in heaven and so was the Holy Ghost. Jesus did not suddenly come on the scene in the NT without having always existed with the Father?

Look with me at Genesis 1. ¹In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

² And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. **And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.**

²⁶ **And God said, Let us** make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

²⁷ **So God created man in his own image**, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

- ✓ From these very few verses alone in Genesis 1 we can easily see who God is, because the trinity is mentioned here right in the beginning.
- ✓ We know that the image of man is taken from the image of God. And because the Spirit of God is not visible, it must have been God the Father speaking to God the Son in the presence of the Spirit of God, saying **“let us make man in our image”**.
- ✓ Therefore Jesus was present with the Father before the beginning of creation on the 1st day he was already there doing the creating. (Micah 5:2 from everlasting)
- ✚ My purpose for the message this morning is to put to rest the doubtful who cannot see the triune Godhead, and who always want to either discredit Jesus as God, or who otherwise want to say that Jesus is the Father.
- ✓ So let's begin to analyze the scriptures this morning in the OT to see if there are any other accounts of Jesus appearing bodily in the OT even before the Bethlehem account of His birth.

This morning's message is not for me to prove the deity of Christ as God, but there are several scriptures which tell us that he is God. For instance Hebrews 1:8.

Hebrews 1:8 ⁸ But unto the Son he saith, **Thy throne, O God**, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.

- ✓ And then what about another clear scripture to tell us that Jesus is God is 1 Tim 3:16.

1 Timothy 3:16 ¹⁶ And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

- ✓ So my purpose this morning is not to prove the deity of Christ because we already know that he is God from these two scriptures alone.
- ✚ But I want to prove conclusively but not necessarily exhaustively from the scriptures this morning because there are far too many to talk about this morning, is that Jesus appeared many times in bodily form in the OT way before Bethlehem's manger.
- ✚ We won't be able to look at all the OT passage but we will look at several at least to show Jesus appearing in the OT.

One of the most obvious passages is Daniel 3:25

Daniel 3:25 ²⁵ He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; **and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.**

Because it literally mentions then name **is like the Son of God.**

- ✓ If you look at the verse in Daniel 3:24 and following you see Nebuchadnezzar speaking to his guards concerning who was thrown into the furnace.

Daniel 3:24 King James Version (KJV)

²⁴ Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

²⁵ He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of **the fourth is like the Son of God.**

²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.

²⁷ And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

²⁸ Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.

1. So then who was this fourth person in the fire?
2. If you don't think that it was not Jesus, then who would it have been?
3. Then also why would Nebuchadnezzar say that it was the Son of God, and why would God the Father have preserved these words if it was not the son of God?
4. And why were none of them affected by the fire?

- ✓ I believe that it was the Son of God just like Nebuchadnezzar said it was.

- ✓ But let me tell you why so many people don't believe that it was the son of God.
- ✓ Here's why?

Question: How many people suppose that you would talk too would say to you that this was not the Son of God?

Answer: I guess it will be most people that would say it was not the son of God and here's the reasons why?

Daniel 3:24

NIV He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods."

ASV He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the aspect of the fourth is like a son of the gods.

ESV He answered and said, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt; and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods."

NASB He said, "Look! I see four men loosed *and* walking *about* in the midst of the fire without harm, and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of *the* gods!"

- ✓ Most people won't believe that it is the Son of God (who is Jesus) because their bibles are telling them that it is not Jesus, but a son of the gods. Their bibles are telling them that it was a "son of the gods).
- ✓ So is there any wonder then? At their conclusion and reason why they believe that Jesus was not in the fiery furnace?

So the reason I bring this up time and time again about the toy bibles is how much they continue to corrupt the Word of God and destroy people's belief in the truth.

- ✚ People who hold onto these toy bibles continue to be misled and they cannot grow in the Lord because they don't know who the LORD is.

The excuse that they give you that the NIV and the other bibles are easier to read is nonsense, because they don't contain the Word of God, but has bent the truths into a lie in thousands of verses, or simply taken verses out completely, so don't tell me that it is easier to read.

- ❖ Now let's look at Genesis 18 for another example of Jesus appearing in the OT. This is even a much stronger passage of scripture teaching that Jesus appeared in the OT to people.

Read Genesis 18.

Genesis 18 King James Version (KJV)

¹ And the LORD appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day;

² And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,

³ And said, My LORD, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant:

⁴ Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree:

⁵ And I will fetch a morsel of bread, and comfort ye your hearts; after that ye shall pass on: for therefore are ye come to your servant. And they said, So do, as thou hast said.

⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent unto Sarah, and said, Make ready quickly three measures of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes upon the hearth.

⁷ And Abraham ran unto the herd, and fetcht a calf tender and good, and gave it unto a young man; and he hasted to dress it.

⁸ And he took butter, and milk, and the calf which he had dressed, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree, and they did eat.

⁹ And they said unto him, Where is Sarah thy wife? And he said, Behold, in the tent.

¹⁰ And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him.

¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.

¹² Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?

✓ *(lord here refers to her husband Abraham – this is what is mentioned in 1 Peter 3:6)*

¹³ And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?

¹⁴ Is any thing too hard for the LORD? At the time appointed I will return unto thee, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.

¹⁵ Then Sarah denied, saying, I laughed not; for she was afraid. And he said, Nay; but thou didst laugh.

¹⁶ And the men rose up from thence, and looked toward Sodom: and Abraham went with them to bring them on the way.

¹⁷ And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

¹⁸ Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

¹⁹ For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

²⁰ And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

²¹ I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

²² **And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.**

²³ And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

²⁴ Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

²⁵ That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

²⁶ **And the LORD said,** If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

²⁷ And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, **I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD,** which am but dust and ashes:

²⁸ Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for lack of five? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy it.

²⁹ And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do it for forty's sake.

³⁰ And he said unto him, **Oh let not the LORD be angry,** and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do it, if I find thirty there.

³¹ And he said, Behold now, **I have taken upon me to speak unto the LORD:** Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for twenty's sake.

³² And he said, **Oh let not the LORD be angry,** and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

³³ **And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.**

1. Therefore according to Genesis 18, Abraham was speaking to the LORD (Jehovah) which is Jesus here.
 2. All through this passage Abraham is calling him LORD.
 3. All through this passage we see that Abraham could see and talk to the LORD and even that the LORD ate the food that Abraham prepared for them.
- ✓ In verse 13, we see that the scripture said.....¹³ **And the LORD said unto Abraham,** Wherefore did Sarah laugh.....

- ✓ This shows that it was the LORD speaking here, which is the name used in place of the Tetragrammaton which is simply the Hebrew equivalent of YHWH which is a word used to show that it is God speaking. Which in this case in Genesis 18 is Jesus who is also God.
- ✓ Also here we see in Genesis 18:16 that the one man stays with the LORD whilst the other two go into Sodom as we continue to read in Genesis 19. These were two angels that showed up in Sodom at Lots house, and they appeared to the sodomites there as two men.
- ✓ But let me show you also that the LORD here could not have been God the Father and therefore must have been God the Son Jesus.
- ✓ Let me show you why?

Turn to John 1 to prove it.....

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²The same was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Verse 14: ¹⁴And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

- ✓ Here we see the members of the trinity again.

But look at verse 18 which is the key to it not being the Father in Genesis 18.

¹⁸ No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

1. You see no man could have seen the Father in Genesis 18 and lived.
2. So it had to be the Son who was the one who revealed himself to Abraham.
3. In verse 18 here it is speaking about God the Father not God the Son.
4. So what this verse is teaching is that it is only the Son who could have been seen by Abraham and not the Father.
5. So could this statement have been made if it was God the Farther who walked up to Abraham?
6. No it would not make any sense according to the scriptures, because no man can see the face of the Father and still live.

Look now at Exodus 33:

Exodus 33: ¹⁸ And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. (*Moses is speaking*)

¹⁹ And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.

²⁰ And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.

²¹ And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock:

²² And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a cliff of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by:

²³ **And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.**

1. In verse 11 however of Exodus 33:11, we see Moses speaking face to face with the LORD. But although he was face to face with the LORD, yet Moses did not “see” him.
2. Just because they were face to face does not mean that they could see each other. The answer to this question is found again verse 20 where the LORD said.....²⁰ **And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live.**
3. So from verse 20 we get the clarification of verse 11 which talked about Moses speaking to the LORD face to face.

Exodus 33:11 ¹¹ **And the LORD spake unto Moses face to face**, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

4. Therefore Genesis 18:18 is correct in what it also said that no man has seen God (referring to the Father) at any time. Unlike in John 1:14 which said they could see Jesus glory. **“beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father”.**

Therefore in Genesis 18 we see Jesus and Exodus 33 we see the Father.

- ✚ Therefore to say that Jesus only appears in the NT is wrong. And to say that only the red letters in your bible refer to Jesus is wrong. Because that’s what the Catholics will have you say. When you show them what Romans says, they will tell you they don’t care what Paul wrote, its only about what Jesus said.
- ✚ No the whole bible from Genesis to Revelation is Jesus.
- ✚ It should be that all the letters from Genesis to Revelation should be in Red writing not just the NT.
- ✚ Anything in the OT is also the mind of Christ, not just the New Testament gospels.
- ❖ So when you see Sodom and Gomorrah going to be destroyed that was Jesus in Genesis 18. It was Jesus in the OT who was and still is against homosexuality.
- ✚ So now if you understand that Jesus is the God of the OT, you also can now understand that Jesus is still the God of the NT. It is the same God.
- ✚ Then the whole bible becomes your authority, not just the NT.

PRAYER.....CLOSE