

JESUS

2. JESUS BEFORE JESUS-The Pre-Incarnate Christ STUDY AHEAD

This ‘Study Ahead’ Bible study guide affirms that JESUS (as well as other N.T. writers) made it clear that *He has existed from eternity past, He was the creator, and He continues to be the sustainer of the universe, and He was the God of the Old Testament.* He made many appearances for thousands of years, in various forms. Knowing this background of JESUS will broaden your view concerning Him, and your trust in His ability to sustain you own life.

“HE IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER”
(Hebrews 13:8).

***“NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN GOD, BUT GOD THE ONE AND ONLY,
HAS MADE HIM KNOWN” (John 1:18; 1Jn 4:12).***

1. In eternity past Jesus created the Universe

- In the beginning was the WORD; was God, with God (Jn 1:1,2)
- He had glory with the Father, before the world began (Jn 17:5)
- He existed in the ‘form of God’ (Philippians 2:6)
- The universe was made through His Son (Hebrews 1:2)
- The universe was made at God’s command (Heb 11:3)

2. Jesus is CREATOR and SUSTAINER of ALL THINGS

- All things came into being through Christ (Jn 1:3)
- All things created by Christ and for Him (Colossians 1:15-16)
- God created the heavens and earth... (Isaiah 45:18)
- You (the Son) laid the earth and made the heavens (Heb 1:8,10)
- All things hold together in Christ (Col 1:17)
- All things are sustained through His powerful word (Heb 1:3)

3. Jesus created and relates to HUMANS along with the Father

- Let Us create human beings in Our image ... (Gen 1:26,27)
- The man has become like one of US...’ (Gen 3:22)
- Moses: Is He not your Father? The One who made you? (Ex34:6)
- Jesus: If you have seen Me, you have seen the Father (Jn 14:9-10)
- Jesus: I and the Father are one (Jn 10:30)
- Though the world was made by Him, the world didn’t recognize Him (Jn 1:10)

4. Jesus claimed to be I AM (GOD) of the O.T.

- Before Abraham was born, 'I AM' (Jn 8:56-59)
- To Moses- 'I AM' (3:13-15)

Why was this claim of Jesus so offensive to the Jewish leaders?

5. OLD TESTAMENT “ANGEL OF THE LORD”

God spoke continuously to people in visions (Gen 15:1 to Abram), and often in an audible voice. But He also made many appearances as “THE ANGEL OF THE LORD” and received worship.

- HAGAR (Genesis 16:1) was the 1st person, a woman, to see God as the Angel of the LORD. Hagar named God ‘EL ROI’, which means GOD SEES, after seeing Him in the desert (Gen 16:7-13)
- ABRAHAM was tested by God: Twice the Angel of the LORD spoke to him (Gen 22:10-17)
- MOSES had his 1st encounter with the Angel of the LORD in flames of fire when God called him to be the deliverer of the Jews from Egypt (Exodus 3:1-6)
- The Angel of the LORD appeared, rebuked the Israelites, and received worship (Jdg 2:1-4)
- DAVID saw The Angel of the LORD about to destroy Jerusalem (1Chronicles 21:16)
- DAVID called Jesus “*My Lord*” (Mt 22:43-45)

There are other angels in the Bible. From these encounters, what do you think puts this ‘Angel of the LORD’ in a unique category?

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

How have these verses broadened your understanding of JESUS?

In what ways in your life can you begin to trust JESUS to be your eternal LORD?

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