

JESUS IS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

When one reads the Bible, it may be shocking to learn that the name Jesus does not appear in the Old Testament. Some have taken this fact and concluded that Jesus is only in the New Testament. Sad to say, some do not see Jesus as "the God of the Old Testament." I want to let you know today Jesus appears in every book of the Bible. Both Old Testament and New Testament. Jesus made two statements that bear fact that He is in the entire Old Testament:

1. Luke 24:27 records "in all the Scriptures (note: at this time, there were only Old Testament scriptures. The New Testament comes one hundred years later)".
2. John 5:39 states, the "scriptures testify of Me."

Jesus is not merely promised in the Old Testament; He is present. This is important since the character God has not changed from the first covenant to the new. God has always worked in the Trinitarian pattern: from the Father, through the Son, by the Holy Spirit. New Testament authors make clear Jesus's presence in the Old Testament:

- The "I Am" in whom Abraham rejoiced was Jesus (John 8:56-58).
- The Lord who motivated Moses was Christ (Hebrews 11:26).
- The Redeemer who brought them out of Egypt was Jesus (Jude 5).
- The Rock in the wilderness was Christ (1 Corinthians 10:4).
- The King of Isaiah's temple vision was the Son (John 12:40-41).

The God who interacted with humans in the Old Testament was the One who became Jesus Christ in the flesh. John 1:1 proves this fact when he stated, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Verse 14 of John chapter 1 tells us, this being called the Word "...became 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." Jesus is being called the Word. Here are three things we learn about the Word (Jesus) from John 1:1:

1. He existed at the beginning of creation.
2. He existed with another being known as God & the Holy Spirit.
3. He is also God.

The Son of God is not just in the New Testament; Jesus is in the Old Testament too. Jesus is God's promised Messiah. From the virgin birth in Bethlehem (Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:35; Micah 5:2), through the sojourn to Egypt (Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:14-15), to His ministry of healing and hope (Genesis 3:15; 1 John 3:8), all the way through His resurrection (Psalm 16:9-11; Acts 2:31), Jesus Christ is the theme of both Old and New Testaments. It could be said that Jesus is the reason for the Bible. He is the Living Word. The entire Bible is a beacon that points us to God's offer of reconciliation, the hope of forgiveness, and eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.