

# King of Kings

Part 2 Jesus is King of Kings over **Human History** John 17:5

**Question 1:** If Jesus humbled Himself 'before the world existed' then what was He like from the **CREATION** of the world until **BETHLEHEM**?

**Answer 1:** He appeared as '**THE Angel of the Lord**'

**Question 2:** The Bible says, 'No man can see God and live' (Ex 33:20), yet people encountered God and lived! How is this possible?  
Gen. 32:30; Deut. 5:24; Judges 13:22; John 1:18, 5:37, 6:46; 1 Tim. 6:15-16; 1 John 4:12

**Answer 2:** They encountered the **SECOND** person of the Trinity because He has always been the visible representation of the Trinity. Therefore He can appear to humans.

Colossians 1:15; 'He is the **image** of the invisible God'

**Conclusion:** No human has ever seen **GOD THE FATHER** and lived! But humans have seen God the Son and lived because Jesus has always been the visible representation of the Trinity. So Jesus can engage with human beings and engage in Human History.

## Key appearances of 'The Angel of the Lord'

1. Appearance to **ABRAHAM** and **SARAH** (Genesis 18)
2. Visit to **HAGAR** (Genesis 16:7-14)
3. Visit to **ABRAHAM** and **ISAAC** (Genesis 22:11-18)
4. Appearance to **JACOB** (Genesis 31:11-13; 32:22-32)
5. Visit to **MOSES** (Exodus 3:2-6)
6. Appearance to **JOSHUA** (Joshua 5:13-15)

**Question 3:** Were these appearances **RANDOM** and arbitrary or were they planned and purposeful? Is there a common thread among the people visited by Jesus or in the messages communicated to them?

**Answer 3:** God is birthing and building the **Nation of Israel!**  
Why? Because the Nation of Israel was to bring forth the **Messiah Jesus!**

**Conclusion:** Jesus **ARRIVES** (in the OT) before He **ARRIVES** (in the NT) so He can prepare for His own **ARRIVAL!**

We can trust Him today because He is King of Kings over **PAST** human history! We can trust that our **CURRENT** human history and **FUTURE** human history is under His control and direction!

Jesus is the King of Kings over **HUMAN HISTORY!**

**Auburn Grace Community Church – December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

## Life Group Discussion Questions – December 12, 2021

**Exodus 33:20** He further said, "You cannot see My face, for mankind shall not see Me and live!"

### DISCOVER

1. According to the above scripture, if mortal man sees the physical embodiment of God, they will surely die. Yet since the beginning of creation, men have routinely "seen God" and lived. How can you explain this apparent paradox?
2. What is a "theophany"? Read Genesis 28:12-17; Isaiah 6:1-13 and Genesis 18:1-33. What are the three manifestations of these theophanies?

### EXPLORE

1. What is the purpose of theophanies? What common denominators can you observe in the different occurrences? (see EXPERIENCE #2) Was Christ's physical presence on earth a 33 years-long theophany? Explain.
2. According to one source, there are 52 references of the term "angel of the Lord" in the Old Testament. However, not all of these references are necessarily manifestations of God Himself. What criteria can we use to determine whether this is the Person of Christ or not when reading the Scriptures?
3. The time between the end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament is an intertestamental period called the "400 Years of God's Silence." The epoch starts with the end of Malachi 4, vv. 5-6 and ends with Jesus' forerunner in John the Baptist. In what ways was God silent? It's safe to say God had a purpose in this. What was that purpose? How does this compare/contrast with your answer to the purpose of theophanies?

### EXPERIENCE

1. Have you experienced a period of time when you were in a spiritually dry place? What does that mean? If God was silent, explain why you felt that way. When and how did you know that God was finally revealing Himself at the end of this season? How were you different as a result? What advice would you give to a brother or sister who is currently in this spiritually arid season?
2. If you were asked to introduce Jesus solely by using the Old Testament, what scriptures would you reference? As a group, make a list. (For your list's consideration, see Jesus' appearance to Abraham and Sarah in Genesis 18; Genesis 16:7-14; Genesis 22:11-18; Exodus 3:2-6, 33:11; etc.)

What prophecies might you also refer to?

### PRAY

*Pray...Father, thank You for Your earthly visitations; that You showed Your love for us by intervening in our human history through the Personage of Christ. Like at Pentecost, give us this day a fresh visit of Your Presence in our lives, that our faith would be increased; that as a result our acts of love and compassion our communities would move towards revival and that Your glory would be revealed.*

Action...Take a minute to think about someone in your life who needs to hear the message of Jesus one more time. Begin to pray specifically for that person and make a plan to share the love and message of Christ with them again.