

"SEEING JESUS...IN THE OLD TESTAMENT"

PART V: "Seeing Christ In JEHOVAH"

WEDNESDAY NIGHT, August 26th, 2009

SPEAKER: Rev. George W. Tuten III

OPENING TEXT: John 17:1-5

I. The name JEHOVAH is perhaps the Highest and most Revered of all the Hebrew names for God.

II. It is a name which appears 6,528 times within the Old Testament and is a name SO ESTEEMED by the Jews that they fear to even pronounce it.

III. The name JEHOVAH emphasizes God's:

1. ETERNAL self-existence; and
2. Moral attributes (such as holiness, righteousness, love, mercy, grace and justice)

NOTE: (The name "ELOHIM" indicates God's sovereignty and strength)

("having neither beginning of days nor end of life")

I AM vs I DO

IV. Jehovah is translated as both LORD and GOD within the Old Testament (all capital letters)

V. It is a name that appears for the first time in Genesis 2:4 in conjunction with "God" - a combination which occurs 20 times within Genesis chapters 2 and 3 - and 532 times within the entire Bible!

VI. The significance of this name was not FULLY revealed to man until God was preparing to deliver His people out of Egypt. (Exodus 6:2,3) ("Jehovah" was not a name revealed before this)

VII. The reason that this name appears 160 times in Genesis is because Moses did not get Genesis written until after God's revelation of Himself at the BURNING BUSH.

VIII. In short, JEHOVAH is the God of:

- 1) REVELATION; and
- 2) REDEMPTION

NOTE: With that in mind, it is impossible to conceive of JEHOVAH without "seeing Jesus" - Who is in HIMSELF THE ULTIMATE Revelation of God to man AND the very ONE THROUGH WHOM He has chosen to Reveal Himself to man.

IX. An interesting study in the application of this particular name for God can be seen as we contrast the name both SATAN and EVE chose to use during the garden temptation WITH the

* The most of any name for God

(to seek their rescue!)

names that are used when God showed up on the scene. (cf. Genesis 3:1b-5 and vv 8 - 23)

- X. The first time that JEHOVAH is translated "GOD" with all capital letters is in Genesis 6:5. This is certainly appropriate and LOGICAL that JEHOVAH (The GOD of Redemption), seeing the overwhelming wickedness in the earth, would act to do something about it.
- XI. JEHOVAH and ELOHIM, referring to the same God, are sometimes used interchangeably. But in many cases it appears that they are chosen very specifically in order to emphasize some specific attribute of God.
- XII. A good example of this can be found in the account of Noah and the ark. It was Elohim Who commanded Noah to build (make/ create) the ark (Gen. 6:19-21) BUT it was Jehovah Who called Noah into the ark (salvation/ action) (Gen. 7:2-5)
- XIII. It was JEHOVAH Who found Abraham among the idol worshippers in UR and then preached the gospel to Him after he obeyed God's voice (compare Gen. 12:1-3; Gal. 3:8)
- XIV. In Genesis 18, Jehovah appeared to Abraham as a Visitor. This "Visitor" is identified 15 times as LORD / LORD. It is critical to understand every THEOPHANY (appearance of God) within the Old Testament as a Christophany (that is, as an appearance of the pre - incarnate Christ) - if NOT, then it will become impossible to reconcile the plain declarations of Scripture which say, "NO man hath seen God, at any time" (John 6:46). Clearly, then, NO man has ever seen God - except for in the Person of Jesus Christ ! (cf. Heb 1:3; John 14:9b)
- XV. ALSO, it was Elohim Who tested Abraham when He commanded that He sacrifice His son, ISAAC (Gen. 22:1,3,8,9) - while it was Jehovah Who withheld his hand from the actual execution (salvation.) (Gen. 22:11,12; 15-18)
- XVI. Jesus is ALSO connected to JEHOVAH in the two Biblical accounts related to a LADDER going up from Earth to Heaven. (compare Gen. 28:13 <LORD> with John 1:51 <Son of man>)
- XVII. Notice how that in Exodus 3: 2 and 4 all three names: * the Angel of the LORD; *LORD, and *God - are ALL referring to a single Person. (1 messenger)
- XVIII. Compare also the revelation of God to Moses in the Burning Bush (Exodus 3:14) TO Jesus' own identification of Himself (John 8:58; 8:24 and 13:19) <note that the "He" is in italics>
- XIX. Jesus was the JEHOVAH Who led and orchestrated the children of Israel out of Egypt. (compare Ex. 13:21; 14:19,24; 23:20,21,23a; 33:14; AND Isaiah 63:9 TO...I CORINTHIANS 10:4!!!) The BOTTOM LINE: Christ was the Jehovah in charge of God's people
- XX. FINALLY, note the comparison between ISAIAH'S prophecy (40:3) AND the actual fulfillment in Luke 1:17. We KNOW that John The BAPTIST prepared the way for our Lord Jesus Christ, the very same One Whom Isaiah called Jehovah and God (Elohim). Therefore it is clearly evident that the names Jehovah and Elohim BOTH apply to The Son, as well as to The Father !

LORD