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| **SERIES** | Where is Jesus? (He’s been there all along) |
| **BIBLE** | Lk. 24:27; Heb. 1:1-4; Col. 1:16-17; Gen. 1; Jn. 1 |
| **TITLE** | #1: Jesus — He Has Always Existed |
| **OVERVIEW** | Jesus was not created; He is the creator. He did not start to exist 2,000 years ago (when He took on flesh); He has eternally existed. He did not start to interact with humanity right after His baptism; He has sustained and been intimately (and physically) involved in the sustaining, restoration, and guidance of humanity since the creation of Adam and Eve. We want to know THIS Jesus. The FULL Jesus. |
| **SCRIPTURE BREAKDOWN** | Throughout this series we want to see Luke 24:27 fleshed out in reality. We want to see how the entire narrative of the Old Testament points to AND culminates in the incarnation, death, and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. BUT BEFORE we can get into the specific images and connections, we have to START with the very nature of Jesus. Throughout history, again and again, cults, false religions, and perversions of the gospel have always started with the twisting of the nature of Jesus. We must worship Jesus fully and truly as He really is—eternally existent God—in order to see Him fully in the Old Testament.  **JESUS—ETERNAL GOD** (Gen. 1:1; Jn. 1:2, 8:58; Rev. 1:17; Heb. 13:8; Mat. 22:41-46)  “In the beginning God…” These are the words that start our understanding of life, history, and purpose. God. He has always been. He is the main character of the Bible, and we see Him throughout the entire Old Testament acting with utmost power, sovereignty, and knowledge. But according to Jesus (and the NT) THAT God is HIM!? We claim this truth when we attempt to define the Trinity, but do we ACTUALLY believe it when we read the OT. Jesus is God… in the Old Testament too.  **JESUS—THE CREATOR** (Hebrews 1:2; Col. 1:16-17; Jn. 1:3; Gen. 1)  Following the rest of Genesis 1 we read the real account of how GOD created everything. How HE designed everything. How HE STILL sustains everything. And as we read Colossians 1 and Hebrews 1, we realize that this God is not abstract. But in fact, this is specifically Jesus. Jesus is the One who is here in Genesis 1, creating and sustaining. Specifically Jesus.  **JESUS—THE GUIDE** (1 Cor. 10:1-4; Ex. 3:2-4; Judges 2:1-2; Gen. 31:11-13)  Throughout the Old Testament there appears again and again, a figure with the title, “THE Angel of the Lord”, which literally translates to “messenger from God” or even “God made visible”. Again and again, as we encounter this figure we see the terms: “God” and “The Angel of the Lord” being interchanged as this Being’s title. Throughout the Old Testament, this Being is actively a part of the miraculous, the supernatural, the judgement, and the guidance of the people of God. Physically being present throughout the OT. Is this the pre-incarnate Jesus? Actively working as the “Visible representation of God” as we know Jesus in Colossians 1:15 and John 1? Even in Daniel 3:25 we see One that looks like a “son of the gods”. If Jesus has eternally existed as a part of the God head, then we can confidently say that NOT ONLY in the New Testament is He the visible representation of God, but He also acts in this same way in the Old Testament. Jesus has always been actively present. |
| **GOSPEL** | Hebrews 13:8 – Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Our Gospel hope is that Jesus has been a part of the story since the beginning. He has provided our redemption while continuing to pursue our hearts. Jesus is fully God. |
| **NEXT**STEPS | Surrender to this Jesus with your life. Pursue Him fully |

Notes: Our goal is NOT to try and put Jesus “visibly” into places in the OT where He is not explicitly stated, or to try and see Him physically in every verse. But instead, we see some of the places where He is actually seen physically, and we use the New Testament to give us an understanding of the reality of where He was during the verses of the Old Testament. Our goal is not to swing too far in either extreme, but to have a true understanding of Jesus.

Additional resources: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgmf8bHayXw>