

YHVH -- is YHVH the Father, or the Word, or both?

The foundation, part 1



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Sept 1, 2018

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There is a recurring discussion about who YHVH (Yahweh or Yehovah) is. If we get it wrong, it ends up diminishing and dishonoring or even dissing God the Father or diminishing the Word of God, Yeshua (Jesus). God wants to be worshipped in TRUTH. We know there is “one God”, how can there be more than 1 YHVH? This will be at least a 2-part sermon, maybe 3-part. Parts of this teaching may surprise some of you. Have people seen YHVH – or not? John 1:18 says nobody has. What’s the truth? Was God the Father actively involved in the Old Testament or was Yeshua the “God of the Old Testament”? Find out. The truth helps us celebrate and worship our Father and our Savior Yeshua (Jesus).

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Hi everyone. Welcome to Light on the Rock. This is Philip Shields.

Many of you know that here on Light on the Rock I’ve made a point to often say “Yehovah” or “YHVH” whenever our English Bibles say “the LORD” – with LORD in all caps. YHVH is referred to as the “tetragrammaton”, the 4 letters of our living God’s name. So when I quote verses and say “YHVH”, your Bible likely will say “the LORD”.

Well, something I’ve talked about for many years: when we read “the LORD” in our English Bibles, who is that speaking of? Is that the One we know now as “God the Father” or is that the One we know now as Jesus/Yeshua, the WORD of God? Which one is it? Is it just one or the other? Could “YHVH” (the LORD in our Bibles) be both of them? Is that possible? And who is the true “God of the Old Testament” – the one we know as Father, or the one we know as Christ?

WHY is this topic even important?

- There’s a teaching making the rounds again that “YHVH” or “the LORD” in the Old Testament refers ONLY and always to God the Father. Is that true or false? Our God wants to be worshipped in spirit and TRUTH.

- If anyone’s teaching is wrong and we say YHVH is just the Father or just the Word (who became Jesus/Yeshua) – IF that’s wrong, **we end up badly, badly minimizing and even dissing one of these 2 great Beings**. We sure don’t want to do that.
- ***We know we’re told YHVH or the LORD is ONE.*** When we get the identity of YHVH right, it will help us understand how being “one” is possible when there is more than just one personality. We’ll get into that more today.
- **There are HERESIES going out** that teaching variants of – God the Father is the ONLY one who is God; that Jesus was a created being; or that Jesus pre-existed his birth but was not God but was “promoted” to that position later; that Yeshua (Jesus) never existed until his birth, etc. All these are heresies that must be exposed.

Most people would come down on one side or the other: YHVH is God the Father, some will say. “No, it is the One who became Jesus Christ. He is the ‘God of the Old Testament.’” Others say the name YHVH has to refer to BOTH of them.

PLEASE study this first part sermon very carefully, as it lays the groundwork for the last 1-2 parts.

SOME POINTS ABOUT THE NAME “YHVH”

Let’s do a quick review/analysis of the name “YHVH” that is replaced with “the LORD” in our Bibles.

- **YHVH is the living God’s proper name.** He says so, several times. (**Exodus 15:3; Isa 42:8** – “I am YHVH, that is my name...”; **Jeremiah 33:2; Amos 5:8; 9:6**) Sometimes it is combined with “of hosts” – YHVH OF HOSTS. Our English Bibles say “LORD of Hosts”. YHVH or YHVH of Hosts is our God’s name.
- **The 4 letters YHVH name of God is used 6,728 times (or some say 6,823x) in the Old Testament.** That’s more than ALL the other titles or names of God put together. More than “God” (Elohim usually), more than El, El Shaddai, HaShem, Adonai, Elohim, etc. etc. all put together.
- **Translators changed YHVH to “the LORD”** (there is no ‘the’ before YHVH) – but YHVH does not mean “The Lord”, nor sound like it. BUT translators kept the names of the pagan gods as is – Dagon, Baal, Marduk, etc. Why did they not “translate” those pagan god names?

Our God said not to change any of the words in his inspired book. So what one word was changed thousands of times? His NAME! Imagine that.

- **Jews did something as bad: they also changed the inspired name YHVH in their Bibles to “Adonai”** – “my Lord”. So they call the Living God either Adonai or “HaShem” – meaning “the Name.” Those are NOT the same as YHVH and nobody has permission to change God’s name. Imagine how YOU would feel if in all your official documents someone changed your name, without your permission, to something else! Remember God commanded that no word of the original was to be changed! So they changed HIS name and added “the” in front, making his name a TITLE – “the LORD”.
- **Some think “Elohim” is also one of his names.** Elohim is the Hebrew word for “God” or - - actually it’s a plural word meaning “gods” or “Gods”, believe it or not. Look it up. Every time the Hebrew word is talking about pagan gods, the word is elohim, as in our God saying “I will destroy all the gods of Egypt” (Exodus 12:12; 18:11 for example)

Elohim is what he is – GOD. It is not his name. Man is what I am, but man is not my name.

- **The other so-called “Names of God” are really more like TITLES.** Even Jesus – in the sample Lord’s Prayer – said “hallowed be thy NAME” – singular. Not “names”. **Titles of God include** – Adon (Lord), Adonai (My Lord), El Shaddai, El, Elohim, and at least a dozen more – God our Healer, God our Banner, God who sees, and so many more. But those are titles describing his majesty, power and what he does and what he is. They are not his name. Nowhere, as far as I know, will you find God saying “My name is El Shaddai” or any of the other titles. But he does say, “YHVH is my name” (Isaiah 42:8).

Some believe that name is too holy to be voiced out loud. But – when I do a new updated sermon on the NAME Of our Creator, you will see how untrue that is. In the famous passage of Jeremiah 31:31-33 about the new covenant, he says there’s coming a time when everyone will know YHVH, that name, and use it.

The name YHVH – or parts of it – was so beloved that people included it in the names of their children. Many of the prophets’ names included YHVH in some way in their name in the Hebrew version. Isaiah – Jeremiah – Hosea – Obadiah and others, and many kings’ names – included the “Yah” or “Yahu” sound at the end in the Hebrew version. So my point: how could someone say it is wrong to voice the name of our blessed God? He loves His name. So do I. And I will shout it from the rooftops.

I believe the Jews changed the name YHVH to Adonai – because the Roman Empire forced them to stop using that name YHVH on pain of death. This was after the **Bar Kochba rebellion of 132-136 AD**. They also had to give up the sabbath and circumcising their boys – or they could be executed.

SO – when we read in our English Bibles “YHVH” in the Old Testament, who is it?

- Is YHVH referring solely to the one we know now as God the Father?
- Or does YHVH in the Old Testament refer to the One we know as God the Word – the one who came to be born as Jesus?
- Or can YHVH refer to BOTH God the Father and Yeshua, Jesus the Word of God – depending on context?
- So who is the “God of the Old Testament”? That has an interesting answer.

**MY teaching on who YHVH is and was, is PREDICATED
ON THESE PREMISES**

I will speak from what God’s word says to me. I have looked at various translations. I have looked at the Greek and Hebrew, but I’m not a Hebrew scholar – so I have talked to Jewish rabbis about some of the Hebrew words.

1. **GOD does not change (Malachi 3:6)**. I also believe Yeshua, the Word of God, has always been subordinate to God the Father. He’s been elevated and glorified, but the head of Christ is God and always has been.

Malachi 3:6

"For I am YHVH, **I do not change**;
Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob."

1 Corinthians 11:3

"But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, **and the head of Christ is God.**"

With God there is “no variableness of turning” – **James 1:17**. No variation, no shadow of turning. He changes not.

Yeshua – while on earth – said the words he spoke were not his words, but his father’s words. The works he did were not his works, but his Father’s. He said he did not come to do his own will, but his father’s will. I think the Word of God, prior to coming as a human (John 1:1-3, 14), would have said the exact same thing: he was always about doing God Most High’s will.

Hebrews 13:8 – “Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever”.

Though the one we know as the Christ will come and reign on the earth for 1000 years, when it's all said and done, he turns everything back to God Most High, the Father and submits to the Father (“will be subject to Him...”)

1 Corinthians 15:27-28

For "He (God) has put all things under His (Christ) feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," *it is evident that He who put all things under Him is exempted.* 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, **then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him**, that God may be all in all.”

I believe that's the way it's always been between God Most High and the Word if we are to understand God changes not. The Word has always been under YHVH Most High's direction. Always. That's my belief and what scripture indicates.

2. **Bible IS CLEAR – NO human has EVER SEEN GOD THE FATHER. No one. At any time.**

Some who try to counter this would add the phrase “in his glory” – no one has seen God in his glory. But the verses I'm about to read don't include that caveat or phrase, so why should we add to God's word? In the New Testament, in MOST verses referring to “God”, the context shows it means God the Father. In the next sermon, I'll clearly show if and how Jesus is and was also GOD, but not as great in authority as God his father, who is “God MOST High”.

John 1:18

“NO ONE has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.” – As John 6:46 says.

John 6:46

“Not that ANYONE has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father.

1 John 4:12 **written to believers!**

“No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.”

3. BUT A LOT OF PEOPLE DID SEE Someone called “God” or YHVH – lots of times!

The entire chapter of Genesis 18 – when YHVH appeared to Abraham; Abraham fed a meal to YHVH and two angels. Abraham pleads for Sodom’s safety to YHVH, in person, that whole time. All the way thru, we see this Being called “The LORD” (YHVH) being seen by, and talking with, Abraham.

Genesis 18:1—“then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees...”

v. 13 – And “the LORD (YHVH) said to Abraham....”

But remember, “NO ONE has seen God at any time.” Someone who is called YHVH – GOD – here is seen and heard, so that’s my point. The Bible won’t lie.

Genesis 32:30 after wrestling with the “Man” all night....

So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For **I have seen God face to face**, and my life is preserved."

The 70 elders, plus Moses and Joshua, plus Aaron and his 2 oldest sons – all feasted with GOD and SAW him – right after YHVH gave the 10 commandments from a shaking, fiery Mt of Sinai with the peal of the shofar trumpet of God.

Exodus 24:9-11

“Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, 10 and they saw the GOD of Israel. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. 11 But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they SAW GOD, and they ate and drank.”

Exodus 33:11

“**So YHVH spoke to Moses face to face**, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.”

There are other examples of people seeing YHVH God in the Old Testament. So ... what does that have to mean?

4. **I believe there is “God MOST High” (Gen 14:18-22; Psalm 7:17; 50:14; 57:2; Acts 7:48; Acts 16:17) who rules, directs, commands, orchestrates all things. He is supreme creator.** He is the God in the Highest. **We know him as “God our Father”.** There is also the Word of God, who was with God, and through whom God Most High executes his plans. The Word, who became

flesh, is and always was, and always will be, UNDER God the Father's authority; submissive to God Most High.

5. **The True Living God says he is ONE, ONE GOD.** Is it possible to have more than one personality and still be "ONE"? We DO know – **John 1:1-2** – "In the beginning was the WORD, and the Word **was WITH God**, and the Word **WAS God.**" So we'll start pondering all these things today. Many claim Yeshua could not be God now, or God before, because there is just ONE UNIT, one BEING, who alone could be God, according to Deut 6:4.

Deuteronomy 6:4

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD (YHVH) our God, YHVH (the LORD) is one!"

The word there for "one" is *echad* in Hebrew. It does usually mean one unit. This is essential to understand though, because whole doctrines are based on this one word *echad*. But we'll see that people who are described as "ONE", from the Hebrew word "*echad*" – can be referring to more than one personality. I'll show you in a minute. Strong's word #259. (Pronounced 'ehad)

Also remember that the main word translated as "God" in the OT, is Elohim – which means "Gods", or literally "mighty Ones". **It's a plural word**, translated in the singular as not to offend those who read Deut 6:4 that "YHVH our Elohim (Gods), our YHVH is ONE" (*echad* in Hebrew). The footnote in my Bible says it can be written as "YHVH is our Elohim (God), YHVH alone" – meaning YHVH alone can be called our God. In many ways I like that better if "*echad*" can truly mean either "one" or 'alone'. It can also mean "first, once, same" as well as "one".

And yet, again, don't forget that even the word *Elohim* is plural. So can a plural – or more than one being – be "*echad*"? A Jewish rabbi told me "no, no way". So we went to these next verses and he could not explain why "*echad*" – ONE – is the word used for more than one being.

And DON'T FORGET that we hear "GOD" saying in Genesis 1 "Let US make man in OUR image..." and then later it says so "in the image of God created HE them". So GOD – Elohim – is shown in the Bible as "we" and "us" as well as in the singular "he" or "him". So we'll go through all this.

Back to "*echad*" – ONE, the word used in Deut 6:4 – "YHVH is ONE.." Let's see other places where this same word is used to describe more than one person.

Genesis 2:24

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and THEY shall become ONE (*echad*) flesh.”

Genesis 11:5-7

“But YHVH came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 And YHVH said, “Indeed **the people are ONE** (*echad*) and they all have **one** language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. 7 Come, **let US go down** and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.”

Even at the Last Passover with Christ – he prayed that those 11 there with him (Judas Iscariot had left) “may be ONE as WE are one...” Let’s read it. So in John 17 we have the Word, who was God and with God, claiming a bunch of people working unitedly could be considered “one”. (I’m going to write a blog soon on a related topic – how we all should have “singleness of heart”, one heart).

John 17:20-23

"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 **that they all may be ONE, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that **they may be one just as We are one**: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

So echad CAN also mean – by SCRIPTURAL USAGE – two or more people or personalities so united in aim and purpose that when you speak to one, you are also speaking to the other; when hear one, you’re hearing the other – and they are seen as ONE UNIT, though more than one personality.

6. **ONLY THE TRUE LIVING GOD is to be worshipped.** Who was worshipped? Yeshua himself told Satan, during the temptations – “Worship GOD and HIM ONLY shall you serve” (**Matthew 4:10**). Was it just the Father who was worshipped, or was the Word of God also worshipped? I’ll show in part 2 that many worshipped Jesus before his resurrection. They worshipped him and he allowed it – why? Because he was also GOD.
7. **To fully understand all this, we have to discover whether or not Yeshua of Nazareth WAS definitely GOD during the Old Testament times, before he came as a man -- AND whether he is considered “GOD” NOW. MANY question that now. They question whether Christ was God or IS God now.**

And certainly many question whether Yeshua (Jesus) was “God in the flesh” WHILE he was on earth before his resurrection. Was Jesus also “God” – while on earth even before his resurrection from the dead? What would you say? ** We will have to answer all these questions. This will take 2-3 sermons of 50 mins each to get thru all this.

SO LET’S GET STARTED and I’ll show that God the Father, God Most High – was definitely called YHVH or “the LORD” and was very active. I gave a whole sermon or two on that part; on how active God the Father was in the Old Testament.

I’ll come back to the premise points as we need them, throughout this 2 part sermon.

GOD THE FATHER AS YHVH IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

There are a lot of ministers who preach that **“the God of the Old Testament was Jesus Christ”** – and they totally leave out the FATHER when they say that. It’s like God the Father retired, or delegated everything to the Word of God. Is that what the Bible teaches though? I’ll get into that aspect even a lot more in Part 2 of this sermon.

So when we teach “the God of the Old Testament was Jesus Christ” – as I myself have taught in the past – we are not being 100% correct. We are not showing ALL the scriptures on the subject. It’s clear to me, that depending on **context**, YHVH can be either God the Father or the Word. **And let’s start with absolute proof that YHVH is clearly indicated to be God Most High, the one we call “God the Father” - - in so many, many verses** and that God Most High was extremely involved in all aspects of His work on the earth. But by showing you these scriptures, neither am I saying anything contrary to John 1:1-2 that the WORD was God also, and was with God also.

Now there’s a terrible **heresy** – terrible – **that is teaching that when we read “YHVH” (“the LORD”), it ALWAYS refers to God the Father. This is a terrible heresy** and needs to be stopped. But it IS true, as I’m about to show you, that in many cases, YHVH does refer to God Most High. It all depends on the context as I’ll show you – and it also depends on believing the many scriptures that tell us “NO ONE has seen God at any time...” But people saw someone called YHVH or God ... so who was that?

YHVH AS THE FATHER, IN CONTEXT:

When many Church of God ministers teach “the God of the Old Testament is Christ” – and leave out God the Father as ALSO being “the God of the Old Testament” – and

God the Father was the one actually directing the Word, we’re really missing something.

Look what Zacharias (father of John the Baptist) said. Notice he says GOD, the GOD OF ISRAEL, has raised up the horn of Salvation – referring to Christ. SO there, the One called “God of Israel” cannot also be Christ, at least not in this verse and context:

Luke 1:68-70

"Blessed is **YHVH God of Israel**, for He has visited and redeemed His people, 69 And has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David, 70 As He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, Who have been since the world began..."

Acts 3:13

"The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his SON Jesus, whom you delivered up...."

So Acts 3:13 certainly calls God the Father “the GOD of our fathers”... or “the God of the Old Testament” could be meant here. But I’ll show you that the WORD of God was also the visible and active God of the Old Testament. But it certainly included a very active God the Father who is the one scripture calls “the GOD OF Israel”, etc.

Acts 5:30 Peter speaking, “The GOD OF OUR FATHERS raised up Jesus, whom you slew and hanged on a tree...” Again, that phrase has to refer to God the Father as the God of Israel, or the God of our fathers.

Paul also includes that phrase again to refer to God the Father in his story of being struck down – **Acts 22:12-14** – v. 14 ‘and he (Ananias) said, ‘**The God of our fathers has chosen you**.... and see the Just One (Christ)..."

So WHO is the God of Israel? Zacharias says here that it is the One we call God the Father! But I’ll absolutely show you that “YHVH” has to also include the one we call the Word – depending on context. But for now I’m focusing on the verses that show YHVH must be referring to God the Father as a bare minimum.

Psalms 110:1

“YHVH (The LORD) said to my Lord (Adonai), ‘Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool.’”

Peter quoted this very same passage to show that the One told to sit at YHVH’s right hand was Christ! (**Acts 2:34-35; also Hebrews 1:13** – “to which of the angels has He (God) ever said: ‘Sit at my right hand, til I make your enemies my footstool.’” Again,

that’s abased on Psalm 110:1 where YHVH in that verse is clearly referring to God the Father.

I feel that one verse alone should make the point. But there are many more, so let’s look at a few more that show YHVH can mean the One we know as God the Father.

Now turn to Psalm 2. **YHVH here is said to have a SON, who should be worshipped and praised. So in Psalm 2 – as well as Psalm 110 – YHVH clearly cannot be referring to the Word, the Son of God.**

Psalm 2:7

"I will declare the decree: **YHVH** (The LORD) has said to Me,
'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You."

Again in this verse, YHVH is clearly depicted as the One who in the future has a SON. So YHVH in Psalm 2:7 is clearly the Father. It has to be! Now here’s another:

Isaiah 7:14

“therefore YHVH (the LORD) Himself shall give a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (God with us)”
-- and by the way, notice that the SON is given a name or title that means “GOD with us”. The Son born of the damsel virgin is called “God”! But my point is that it is YHVH who will SEND that Son who will be called Immanuel.

Matthew 1:23 clearly quotes from Isaiah 7:14 as showing Yeshua was the begotten son of YHVH God Most High in heaven, which Isaiah 7:14 calls YHVH. See how involved YHVH Most High is in Israel and to not include him in the phrase “the God of the Old Testament” is a terrible injustice and scripturally untrue.

This next one is a favorite of the “YHVH = God the Father ONLY” group.

Hebrews 1:1-2

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 **has in these last days spoken to us by His Son**, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

There’s no getting around that – according to Heb 1:1 – God the Father is actively communicating through the prophets. But now he is communicating to us by Christ. The one referred to as “God” here *has* to be God the father. I totally agree. But now it gets really interesting, so focus.....

HOW did God communicate with the prophets? By dreams, by visions, and by **appearing** to them at various times – like YHVH did to Abraham in Genesis 18. But when we combine the SEVERAL verses that say that God the Father has never been SEEN by anyone – then it had to be someone other than the Father they saw, but someone who is also called “God” or “the LORD” (YHVH) in scripture. This WORD of God was – remember – “was WITH God and WAS (also) GOD” according to John 1:1. Right?

Now have you noticed THIS – what I’m about to show you -- before? Many times, when God spoke to the prophets and fathers, he spoke via or through “the WORD OF YHVH” – WHICH John 1:1 identifies as the One who became FLESH and dwelt among us (**John 1:14**). Now watch this – and I’m just going to show that there’s no PROBLEM with Hebrews 1:1 limiting “God” or “YHVH” to just God the Father.

God Most High, also known as God the Father to us, who is head of Christ the Word, DID interact actively – but when YHVH appeared and when he spoke – he appeared and spoke *via the WORD of God*. Watch this:

Genesis 15:1-4

After these things **the Word of the LORD** (YHVH) **CAME** to Abram in a **vision**, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."
2 But Abram said, "**Lord YHVH**, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!"
4 And behold, **the WORD OF THE LORD (of YHVH) came to him**, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir."

FOLKS, WHO is this “word of YHVH”? I believe it points to **John 1:1** – how Christ was “the WORD, who was with God **and was God**” – and was SENT by God Most High to become flesh. **John 1:14** – the Word, who was God remember, became flesh.

The one sent is never greater than the one sending. BUT we see Abraham talking to the Word of God as YHVH – see v 2, etc. Are you getting it? God Most High speaks to his prophets – but he does so by his WORD. So God Most High decides what needs to be said, and then HE tells his prophets that – but uses the WORD of God to tell them. Scripture examples will back me up.

- Yes, God the Father is YHVH, directing things, heavily involved in all things to do with Israel and the world. HE’s in charge. HE’s the TOP being in the universe. And He works through the Word of God. God changes not. That’s

what he did when Christ came saying his words were really his father’s words and his Father’s will. And the Word of God always did what YHVH God Most High wanted said and done.

I’ll give you a HOST of other scriptures which show that the One who spoke God’s words and God’s will to the prophets was Are you ready... according to scripture, not God the Father directly or visibly -- but God the Father USING the WORD of God to speak to the prophets and at times, even appear to them.

There are 198 scriptures in the OT that mention “the Word of the LORD” plus other scriptures that mention “the Word of God”. Many times it says “the Word of the LORD CAME TO me saying...” – as in 1 Chron 22:8.

Certainly the phrase “according to the word of the LORD (YHVH)” can also refer to the WRITTEN word of God. I know that. (2 Chron 35:6; 34:21; etc). In the NEW Testament, the phrase “the word of God” is used primarily to refer to the written books of the Bible. But it seems much different in the Old Testament.

If “word of the Lord” always meant the scriptures, why would it say “The Word of the LORD CAME to me, saying...”?

2 Chronicles 12:7 – when “YHVH saw them humbling themselves, then the WORD of YHVH came to Shemaiah saying...”

And many times the prophets shouted – “Therefore HEAR the WORD of YHVH...” (2 Chronicles 18:18)

But when we read YHVH saying to someone – and doing it BY the Word of the LORD, or if we read “the WORD of YHVH CAME TO...” so and so... I think that is the SAME WORD that is mentioned in John 1:1, folks!

1 Chronicles 17:3 – “But it happened that night that the Word of God (Elohim) came to Nathan saying, ‘Go tell my servant David, Thus SAYS YHVH....”

Do you see that there? The Word of God is bringing word from God Most High, YHVH. SO it’s coming directly from God the Father THROUGH His Word of God (John 1:1) to NATHAN.

If you want a bunch more, here are a few more. But there are DOZENS more. These next scriptures say variants of “then the Word of the LORD came to...” **Ezekiel 1:3; 3:16** (“The word of the LORD came to me saying...”); **again in Ezek 6:1; 7:1; 11:14; 12:1; 12:8; 12:17, 21, 26; 13:1; 14:2; and DOZENS more** – same

with Isaiah and Jeremiah. See Isaiah 38:4; Jer 18:5; 28:12; 29:30; 32:6; 39:15; Jer 42:7; 43:8; 46:1; 47:1; 49:34 -- I HOPE YOU take time to read a few of these.

You may have read those verses a thousand times before and not realized that the One we know as Christ – the WORD of God – was speaking to prophets -- as he often CAME TO and APPEARED to the prophets declaring the MESSAGE HE got from God MOST HIGH. There are literally scores and scores of these verses. I’ve never heard anyone else preach this. But it’s worth considering, I think.

Each time, it is God Most High, the Father – with the Message, but he’s speaking to the prophets *not directly* -- but through his Word, or through the Angel (messenger) of the Lord. He appears through The WORD of God—and hence, all the scriptures that say NOBODY has seen God the Father all still hold true, even though some SAW the Word of God, who was God, and is God.

Samuel’s case is very instructive. Get your own Bible out and study this with me.

Even SAMUEL as a boy ... watch this: WE KNOW he heard the voice of YHVH calling to him. Later in **1 Samuel 3:21, the last verse**, it says this, listen carefully:

“Then the LORD (YHVH) APPEARED again in Shiloh. For the LORD (YHVH) REVEALED HIMSELF to Samuel in Shiloh BY the WORD of the LORD (YHVH).”

Read that a few times. **YHVH appeared to Samuel and revealed himself to Samuel BY the Word of YHVH.** It can’t be any more direct, or any plainer than that. When I get part 2 of this sermon done, you’ll see that if Samuel, Abraham or anyone saw YHVH, they saw YHVH all right, but it could not have been the Father because NO HUMAN has ever seen God the Father, God Most High. NO ONE. (John 1:18; 6:46; 1 John 4:12, etc).

1 Samuel 3:21 clearly cannot mean the written word of God, but the BEING who is known as the Word of God, “who was with God, and was God.” So God Most High revealed himself by and through his WORD.

So therefore, many times, the prophets write it this way, “Jer 22:29 – “O earth, earth, earth, **hear the Word of the Lord! Thus SAYS YHVH [THRU the WORD of YHVH...].**...”

The Word became the God being humanity interacted with, saw and heard – but the WORD of God was always doing the will of GOD who was His Boss and God. Always. Remember Yeshua said he came to do his father’s will, spoke his Father’s words, and the works he did were really his father’s works and miracles.

That was not something new, folks. That’s the way it always had been. The WORD of God was God and was with God – but always, always did and spoke what God MOST High said the plan was. Always.

Here are a few more verses that clearly show YHVH as very involved in Israel and **context** shows these verses have to be referring to God the Father. Let’s first read Psalm 45:6-7 and then see what Hebrews 1:8 says, quoting from Psalm 45:6-7.

- **Psalms 45:6-7**

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;

A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

7 You love righteousness and hate wickedness;

Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You

With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”

Hebrews 1:8-9

But to the SON He says:

"Your throne, O GOD, is forever and ever;

A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

9 You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;

Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You

With the oil of gladness more than Your companions."

Here, both the Supreme God Being and the SON are both called “GOD”.

- The prophecy that YHVH will not allow his Holy One to see corruption – a prophecy for the resurrection of the Christ, again clearly shows *that* YHVH to be God the father in context -- **Psalm 16:8-10; compare with Acts 2:25-33** where Peter clearly shows YHVH to be the Father and the Holy One to mean Christ and CLEARLY took time to show this was not referring to David (Acts 2:33-34). **Also Acts 13:35 and Mark 12:10-11.**
- **The Isaiah 53 prophecy, especially verse 10,** about the coming Suffering Messiah in context is all about YHVH making His Servant (Christ) go through intense suffering. Again, in that whole chapter, “YHVH” has to be referring to God the Father.

Isaiah 53:10—“Yet it pleased the LORD (YHVH) to bruise Him; HE has put him to grief.”

There are many, many more scriptures that clearly show a lot of times where YHVH has to be referring to God the Father. But next time I’ll show you also that sometimes

when we read YHVH, the ONLY one it could be referring to – is the One who came as Jesus Christ (Yeshua the Messiah).

We’ll also get into WHO is the CREATOR – God the Father, or Christ, or both? WHO created all things? The Biblical answer may not be what you think, but much broader than you think.

Next time we have so much to cover. Who is the Creator – the Father or Christ? Who is “the God of the Old Testament” – the Father or Christ? Hint: they work so closely together they are said to be “echad” – ONE.

SO much to cover, be sure you hear the next sermon.
Closing prayer.

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