

# Yahweh's Personal Agent

## BBI IIc: 01

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I. God is **invisible**, has **never been seen**, and **cannot be seen** by mortal humans; He cannot be confined to a place (1 Kings 8:27; 2 Chron. 2:5; 2 Chron. 6:18).

A. John 1:18 (NKJV) No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

B. John 5:37 (NKJV) "And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form.

C. John 6:46 (NKJV) "Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father."

D. Col. 1:15 (NKJV) He is the image of the invisible God, ...

E. 1 Tim. 1:17 (NKJV) Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible...

F. 1 Tim. 6:16 (NKJV) ... who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, ...

G. Heb. 11:27 (NKJV) ... he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

H. 1 John 4:12,20 (NKJV) No one has seen God at any time. ... for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

II. Who in the OT was called "God" and "Yahweh" who people saw with their eyes?

A. John 1:18 "the only-begotten Son"

B. John 14:9 "He who has seen Me has seen the Father"

C. Col. 1:15 "the image of the invisible God"

D. Heb. 1:3 "the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person"

III. Yahweh's Messenger bore Yahweh's NAME and title (God), and spoke as God.

A. Exod. 23:20-23 "My name is upon Him" (LXX) "in Him" (Heb)

B. Gen. 16:13 Hagar saw Yahweh's Messenger, but said she saw Yahweh!

C. Gen. 22:12 Yahweh's Messenger said to Abraham, "now I know that you fear **God**, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from **Me**." Yet the one who told Abraham to offer up Isaac was called "God" (vss. 1-3)

D. Gen. 28-48 "God" and "Yahweh" is said to have constantly aided Jacob. However, in Gen. 48:16 Jacob prayed that Yahweh's "**Messenger** who delivered me from all evils, bless these boys" (Joseph's sons).

E. Gen. 32:24-30 Yahweh's Messenger wrestled with Jacob, who changed his name to Israel. Jacob then asked Yahweh's Messenger His name, but He refused to give it (it remained hidden, a secret). Jacob then claimed, "I have seen **God face to face** and my life is preserved."

F. Exod. 3:2-22 Yahweh's Messenger appeared to Moses in the burning bush, and referred to Himself as "God." Moses was told to say to the Israelites, "**Yahweh God** of your fathers, the **God** of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, **appeared to me** ..." (v. 16), and Moses called Him "Yahweh" (vss. 4,7) and "God" (vss. 4,6,11,13,14,15).

G. Exod. 14:19 The Messenger of God was in the pillar of cloud and fire, later called Yahweh (v. 24).

H. Judg. 2:1-2 Yahweh's Messenger claimed credit for the Exodus and the Mosaic Covenant: "**I led you** up from Egypt and brought you to the land of which **I swore** to your fathers; and **I said**, 'I will never break **My covenant** with you.' And 'you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars.' But you have not obeyed **My voice**."

I. Judg. 6:11-24 Yahweh's Messenger appeared to Gideon, sitting under a tree (v. 11). Then "**Yahweh turned to him** and spoke" (v. 14), and again "**Yahweh** said to him" (v. 16), and again "**Yahweh** said to him" (v. 23).

J. Judg. 13:3-23 Yahweh's Messenger appeared to Samson's parents: Manoah asked His name, but He replied, (v. 18) "Why do you ask My name, seeing **it is a secret**?" (KJV – "a secret," JPS "hidden"). Yahweh's Messenger "ascended into heaven" (v. 20). Manoah said, "We shall surely die, because we have seen **God**!" (v. 22).

#### IV. Jesus is identified as Yahweh's "Messenger"

A. Isa. 9:6 the "Youth" who was begotten, the "Son" who was given, is called "*the Messenger of Great Counsel*" (LXX).

B. Mal. 3:1 the One for whom John the Baptist would prepare the way was "*the Messenger of the Covenant.*"

1. Acts 7:30,35,38 identified the same "Messenger" who spoke to Moses in the burning bush also spoke the covenant on Mt. Sinai, yet Exod. 19:18 says Yahweh descended on Mt. Sinai and gave the covenant.

2. Heb. 3:1-6 indicates that Jesus build Moses' household.

C. Rom. 16:25; Col. 2:2 The "secret" concealed in the OT was Jesus Christ.

D. Gal. 4:14 Paul equated God's "Messenger" with "Christ Jesus."

E. 1 Tim. 2:5 There is only one "Mediator" between God and mankind – Jesus. If Yahweh's "Messenger" is not Jesus, then there are two "Mediators."

F. Rev. 1:1 Jesus is called God's "Messenger"