Christ In The Old Testament "Christ In The Garden" Genesis 3

Introduction:

- 1. The Last Sunday Night We Were Together:
 - I Introduced Our Sunday Night Series:
 - For The Year Which Will Focus On:
 - "Christ In The Old Testament!"
 - And We Are Doing This Because:
 - It Is What Jesus Himself:
 - Encourages Us To Do!
 - In John 5:39 He Said:
 - "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me!"
 - And Then He Even Gave Us His Own Example To Do This:
 - When After His Resurrection:
 - He Met With Two Of His Disciples On The Road To Emmaus And:
 - "Beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself!" (Luke 24:27)
- 2. And So Even Though This Is Our Goal:
 - We Know That We Will Not Be Able To See:
 - "Christ In The Old Testament" Or Even:
 - Christ In Any Part Of The Bible:
 - On Our Own!
 - So We Need To:
 - Pray To & Plead With The Lord To:
 - Open Our Eyes!
 - Increase Our Faith! And:
 - Stir Up Our Hearts:
 - For Him!
 - Even As He Did For:
 - His Two Disciples In Luke 24!
 - When He Caused Their Hearts To Burn Within Them, While He Talked With Them By The Way, While He Opened To Them The Scriptures! (24:32)
- 3. The First Way:
 - We Are Going To See:
 - Christ In The Old Testament:
 - Is Through His Personal Manifestations:
 - And Appearances!
 - We Can Be So Grateful:
 - That God As The Creator Of This Universe And:
 - As The Creator Of This World And:
 - As The Creator Of Man:
 - Did Not Just "Take His Hands Off The Wheel" So To Speak:
 - When He "Rested On The Seventh Day From All His Work!"
 - Instead He Continued To Be:
 - Personally And Actively *Involved* In:
 - As Well As *Interested* In:
 - The Affairs Of This World:
 - Even After Our Fall Into Sin:
 - Through Adam!
- 4. And One Of The Ways:
 - He Shows His Involvement & His Interest Is By:
 - From Time To Time:
 - Appearing To Real People:
 - In A Real, Visible Form:
 - Which Was Then Recorded For Us In The Bible!

- The Theological Term For This Is: - A "Theophany!" - A Temporary, Visible Manifestation Of God! - So - Even Though We Are Told: - In John 4:24 That: - "God Is A Spirit!" - And - Even Though John Also Tells Us: - In John 1:18 That: - "No Man Hath Seen God At Any Time!" - God Did - From Time To Time: - In The Old Testament: - Reveal & Manifest Some Part Of Himself: - To Us - Though Not: - In The Fulness Of His Glory & Nature! - To The People Of Israel: - God Showed Himself: - On Many Occasions: - By Fire & By Smoke! - Theophanies - Throughout Their 40 Years In The Wilderness! 5. But - There Are Other Times: - When This Manifestation Of God: - Took On A Human Form! - And - Even Though The Person: - Looked Like A Man! - Talked Like A Man! And: - Acted Like A Man! - Yet - The Words He Said & The Works He Did: - Proved Him To Be: - More Than Man! - Even - God Himself! - And - Whenever God Manifests Himself: - In A Human Form In The Old Testament: - It Is Best To See It As: - A "Christophany!" - A Personal, Visible, Preincarnate Manifestation Of Jesus Christ! - The Eternal Son Of God Who Is God The Son! - After All - As We Are Told In: - Colossians 1:15 - Jesus Christ Himself Is: - "The Image Of The Invisible God!" - And - He Is The One: - Whose Mission Has Always Been: - To Reveal & Declare The Father To Us! 6. So - Over The Next 9 Weeks: - We Are Going To Look At: - 9 Different Times: - When Jesus Visited This World: - And Personally & Visibly Appeared: - To Men! - But - Not Just When: - But Why! The Reasons He Appeared! - And So - The First Indication Of: - Christ In The Old Testament: - Is Found In Genesis 3! - Let's Turn There Together: - And Read This Sad But Familiar Account: - Of Our Own Fall: - Through The Sin Of Adam & Eve!

- Read Genesis 3:1-21!

In This Passage - We First Find Christ: 7. - In 3:8 - When: - Adam & Eve - "Heard The Voice Of The LORD God Walking In The Garden In The Cool Of The Day!" - It Wasn't Just: - A "Voice" That Was Walking In The Garden! - It Was "The LORD God" Who Was "Walking In The Garden!" - The "LORD God" Who Had Just Created Man: - Took The Form Of A Man: - So That He Could Walk With And Talk With: - His New Creation! - But - Why Would He Do This? - Why Would Jesus Christ: - Even Before His Incarnation: - Enrobe Himself With The Flesh Of Man? First: 1. Christ Came Himself - For Fellowship! - Christ Came To Them: - For Fellowship With Them! - When Adam And Eve: - "Heard The Voice Of The LORD God Walking In The Garden": - It Seems Like It Was Somewhat Familiar To Them! - It Seems Like: - This Wasn't The First Time! - So - When God The Son: - Came This Time - He Came To Them: - In The Same Manner! - The LORD God Himself: - Came "Walking!" - With A Body! With Feet! With Hands! With A Head! With A Face! With Eyes & Ears & A Nose & A Mouth! - He Came "Walking" In The Full Appearance Of A Man! - And This Would Have Been The Customary Way: - For Adam & Eve To Enjoy: - The Company Of God! - For The Creation To Have Fellowship: - With Their Creator! - He Came To Them: - In The Same Place! - "In The Garden!" - The Garden Of Eden: - That He Had Planted Himself In His New World! - It Was A Place: - Of Beauty & Blessing: - For The Enjoyment And Benefit: - Of Those Most Like Him, Made In His Own Image And After His Own Likeness! - He Came To Them: - At The Same Time! - "In The Cool Of The Day!" - Or - The "Breeze" Of The Day! - When The Sun Was Moving Closer To The Horizon: - Hastening The End Of Another Perfect Day! - And The Lord Would Have: - Enjoyed These Times Of Fellowship: - With Adam & With Eve: - As Much As They Did!

- But - This Time:

- Instead Of Sweet Conversation:

- There Was A Question! - "Where Art Thou?" - He Asked! - "Where Art Thou?" - Adam & Eve? - They Were Not: - To Be Seen! - When The Lord Came: - They Fled - Because Of Their Sin! - They Had Disobeyed: - The Voice Of God - So Now: - They Were Afraid Of: - The Voice Of God! - The Fellowship Christ Came To Enjoy: - With His Creation: - Had Been Broken! - But Then - Second: Christ Called Himself – For Fellowship! - Christ Called To Them: - For Fellowship With Them! - 3:9 - "And the LORD God called unto Adam!" - The Same One: - Who Came To Adam & Eve The Garden: - Called Out To Them: - With The Same Voice He Had Used: - To Create Them! - And So - He Called Out To Them: - In His Great Majesty! - When He Called And Said: - "Where Art Thou?" - It Wasn't For His Sake: - But For The Sake Of Adam & Eve! - Of Course - God Knew Where They Were! - After All - Proverbs 15:3 - "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good!" - Christ Did Not Ask This Question: - So That He Might Find: - Their Hiding Place - In Some Fateful Kind Of Hide & Seek Game! - No - He Asked This Question: - So That They Would Focus: - On Their Condition: - Caused By Their Sin! - "Where Art Thou?" - Christ Called? - But - When They Heard The Voice Of His Majesty: - The Sharpness Of His Word: - Hit The Target Of Their Hearts: - And - 3:8b - "Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden!" - When Christ Called To Them: - It Was So That *They* Would Know:

- Where They Were!

- As We Are Told In:

- Out Of Shame:

- And So - They Hid From The Majesty Of Christ:

- And Truly - They Were In: - A Hard Place!

- Proverbs 13:15 - "The way of transgressors is hard!"

2.

- For Their Sin!

- But I Don't Believe:
 - This Is The Only Way Christ Called Out To Them!
 - Because He Came To Them:
 - For Fellowship!
 - And So He Called Out To Them:
 - For Fellowship As Well!
 - He Called Out To Them:

- In His Great Mercy!
 - I Wonder How Did Those Words Sound:
 - Coming Out Of His Mouth?
 - They Could Have Been:
 - Very Strong & Firm As Their Sovereign:
 - To Convict Them & Judge Them:
 - For Their Disobedience To Him!
 - But Instead I Believe:
 - They Were Uttered:
 - In The Same "Still Small Voice" That The Prophet Elijah Heard!
 - It Was The Voice Of Christ:
 - As Their Savior:
 - To Call Them Back Into Fellowship With Him!
- Those Words "Where Art Thou" Were Gracious Words!
 - But They Were Still Great Words:
 - And Powerful, Effectual Words!
 - I Like How Matthew Henry Described It When He Said That The Lord:
 - "Came In Such A Manner As Made It Formidable Only To Guilty Consciences!"
 - And So When Christ Uttered His:
 - Majestic & Merciful Words:
 - They Brought Adam & Eve:
 - From Their Hiding Place At Some Point:
 - To Stand Before Him, Even In Their Sin & Shame!
 - And Of Course:
 - There Were Consequences For Their Sin!
 - But Even As He Was Executing His Judgment:
 - Upon The Serpent First, Then Eve, And Then Adam!
 - In The Middle Of His Judgment:
 - We See That:

3. Christ Committed Himself – For Fellowship!

- Christ Committed Himself To Them!
 - Even As They Stood There:
 - In Their Sin & Shame!
 - He Committed Himself First:
- Through The Promise Of A Seed:
 - That Would Come One Day:
 - To Bring The Final Solution:
 - To The Problem Of Sin!
 - He Said To The Serpent In 3:15:
 - "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel!"
 - And The One Who Said This:
 - To That Serpent:
 - Knew That He Would Be:
 - That Seed & That Solution!
 - But Then Christ Did Something More!
 - He Committed Himself:
- Through The Provision Of A Sacrifice!

- To Show Adam & Eve What Was Required:
 - So That Their Fellowship:
 - Could Be Restored!
- In 3:21 We Read That:
 - "Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them!"
 - Just Think Of All That This Entailed!
- Christ Himself:
 - With The Feet Of A Man:
 - Walked Over To Some Animals There In The Garden:
 - And Personally Chose The Ones He Would Use!
 - Then:
- Christ Himself:
 - With The Hands Of A Man:
 - Took Those Animals & Slaughtered Those Innocent Creatures:
 - Likely To The Horror Of Adam And Eve!
- Because In Doing So:
 - He Showed To Them For The First Time:
 - This Is What Death Is:
 - Adam!
 - This Is What Blood Is:
 - Eve!
 - This Is What A Sacrifice Is!
 - And This Is What Your Sin Caused!
 - But Then:
- Christ Himself:
 - With The Hands Of A Man:
 - But With The Heart Of God:
 - Flayed The Skins Off Those Animals & Made Them Coats From Those Skins!
 - And Then He Took Those Coats:
 - "And Clothed Them!"
 - As Adam & Eve Stood There, In All Of Their Sin & Shame:
 - Christ Softly & Carefully Covered Their Nakedness:
 - With His Own Two Hands!

Conclusion:

- 1. But Even After All Of This:
 - Christ Was Not Done!
 - What He Had Done:
 - Then For Adam & Eve:
 - He Would One Day:
 - Do For You & For Me!
 - So When Thousands Of Years Later:
 - Jesus Christ Was Born:
 - And "The Word Was Made Flesh, And Dwelt Among Us!" (John 1:14)
- 2. He Came To You:
 - For The Same Reason:
 - He Came To Adam & Eve:
 - In The Garden Of Eden!
 - He Came For Fellowship!
 - With You!
 - But "Where Art Thou?"
 - He Could Ask!
 - Are You Experiencing & Enjoying:
 - The Sweet Fellowship:
 - Christ Came To Give You?
- 3. Christ Also Calls To You:
 - For The Same Reason:
 - He Called To Adam & Eve:

- When They "Hid Themselves From The Presence Of The LORD God!" - He Still Calls To You: - For Fellowship! - In Matthew 11:28 - Jesus Calls To You & Says: - "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest!" - But - "Where Art Thou?" - Aren't You Tired: - Because Of Your Labor? - Aren't You Weary: - Because Of Your Load? - In John 7:37 - Jesus Calls To You & Says: - "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink!" - But - "Where Art Thou?" - Aren't You Thirsty? Hungry? - Why Do You Stay Hidden From Him? - Why Do You Try To Take Comfort In: - The "Fig Leaves" Of Your Own Making: - When Christ Offers You Something Better & Something Greater! - Because: Christ Also Committed Himself To You: - For The Same Reason: - He Committed Himself To Adam & Eve! - He Committed Himself: - For Fellowship: - With You! - He Came As: - The Seed *He* Promised: - That Would Be The Final Solution: - For Your Sin! - And Then: - He Became: - The Sacrifice *He* Provided: - To Fulfill All That He Required: - For Your Salvation! - He Was The Chosen Lamb: - Taken By Rough Hands: - Of The People He Came To Save! - His Was The Life: - That Had To Die! - His Was The Blood: - That Had To Be Shed! - His Was The Body: - That Had To Be Broken! - So That - When He Rose From The Dead: - He Could Take You & Clothe You: - With Himself! - Not For His Sake:
- 5. But - "Where Art Thou?"

4.

- Christ Asked This Question:
 - - But For Yours!
- If You Are Somewhere:
 - You Are Not Supposed To Be Tonight:
 - Won't You See:
 - Christ Coming To You?
 - Won't You Listen To:
 - Christ Calling For You?
 - Won't You Remember How:
 - Christ Committed Himself To You?

- And Go To Him!
- Run To Him!
- For The Sweet Fellowship:
- He Created You For!

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