

*Christ In The Old Testament*  
*“Angel Of His Presence”*  
*Isaiah 63:9*

**Introduction:**

1. Since We Started:
  - Our Series On:
    - “Christ In The Old Testament!”
      - We’ve Looked At Specific Times:
        - When Christ Personally & Visibly:
          - Appeared To:
            - Both Men & Women!
    - These Appearances Are Known As:
      - “Christophanies!”
  - And - *Whenever* He Appears:
    - He Does So - By Manifesting:
      - The Same Character:
        - That He Would Possess:
          - In His Incarnation!
    - This Was True When:
      - He Met With:
        - Adam, Eve, Abraham, Hagar, Jacob, Moses, And Joshua:
          - Who We Have Already Considered So Far This Year!
2. Some Of Those Times:
  - He Appeared As:
    - “The Angel Of The Lord!”
      - And - As The Lord’s Angel / Messenger:
        - He Had A Special Message:
          - To Convey To Those He Met!
  - Well - Tonight:
    - We Are Going To See That:
      - The “Angel Of The Lord” Played An Important Role:
        - Not Only In The Lives Of:
          - These Individuals!
        - But Also In The Lives & History:
          - Of His People As A Whole!
            - The Children Of Israel!
    - Especially:
      - When They Made Their Way:
        - From Egypt - All The Way To:
          - To The Promise Land!
3. And This Is Summarized For Us:
  - In Isaiah 63 - Which Is Where I’d Like For Us:
    - To Turn In Our Bibles First:
      - 63:7-9 - “I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, [and] the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which he hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. / For he said, Surely they [are] my people, children [that] will not lie: so he was their Saviour. / In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old!”
  - In Isaiah 63:9 - The Angel Of The Lord:
    - Is Called:
      - “The Angel Of His Presence!”
        - And Here - Isaiah Tells Us That:
          - This Angel / This Messenger:
            - Wasn’t Just With The *Leaders* Of His People!
      - He Was With *All* Of His People:

- Throughout Their Journey!
- Again - "In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them: in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old!" (63:9)

4. Wherever The Children Of Israel Were:
- There - The Angel Of The Lord Was!
    - Wherever The Children Of Israel Went:
      - There - The Angel Of The Lord Went!
      - And His Message Was - Consistently:
        - "I Am With You!"
    - Because - The Angel Of The Lord:
      - Was The Angel:
        - Of His Presence!
  - And So - For The Rest Of Our Time Tonight:
    - We Are Going To Follow:
      - The Angel Of The Lord:
        - As He Appeared To His People:
          - Throughout Their Journey:
          - From Slavery To Salvation!

\* And The First Thing We Find - Back In Exodus Is:

**1. The Promise Of His Presence:**

- At The Beginning:
  - Of Their Journey:
    - Into The Wilderness!
  - In Exodus 3 - When Christ Appeared To Moses:
    - In "A Flame Of Fire" - He Told Him:
      - 3:12 - "Certainly I Will Be With Thee!"
      - And That Was A Promise!
  - Well - When Moses Was Finally Able:
    - To Lead His People Out Of Egypt:
      - The Lord Kept His Promise:
        - In A Spectacular Way!
- And - In Exodus 13:21-22:
  - We Are Told:
    - "And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: / He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, [from] before the people!"
      - This Was Likely - One & The Same "Pillar!"
    - Only - The Most Notable Characteristic Of This Column / Pillar:
      - Was Its Fire - At Night - And:
        - Its Smoke - In The Day!
      - **IE:** Like The Bomb Damage Seen In Ukraine Right Now - Can See Where It Struck At Night - By Fire - In The Day - By Its Smoke Rising Up Into The Sky!
  - But Here - The Lord's *Presence*:
    - Was With The Children Of Israel:
      - In A Pillar Of Fire & Cloud:
    - Even As His Presence:
      - Was With Moses:
        - In A "Flame Of Fire!"
- But - Just A Chapter Over - In Exodus 14:19:
  - We Are Told That:
    - Even As The Egyptians Were Closing In On:
      - The "Camp Of Israel" - That:
        - "And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them!"
  - So - It Was The Angel Of The Lord:

- The Angel Of God:
  - Who - As God & As The Lord:
    - Maintained His Presence With His People!
- And - As We've Seen Already:
  - That Angel Was Christ!
    - As Christ Was In:
      - The "Flame Of Fire" To Moses!
    - So Christ Was In:
      - The Pillar Of Fire By Night & The Pillar Of Smoke By Day:
        - For All His People!
- And - His Message Was This:
  - "My Presence Is With You!" - And:
    - "My Presence Will Preserve You!"
      - And That's What He Did!
- Christ Kept His Promise To Moses:
- By Directing His People:
  - Throughout Their Time In The Wilderness!
    - And - By Directing Them:
      - Through His Visible Presence:
        - In The Fire & In The Cloud!
  - Back In Exodus 13:21:
    - It Says That Christ "Went Before Them - To Lead Them The Way!"
      - To Guide Them!
        - And - They Needed His Guiding Presence!
    - They Were Going Places:
      - They Had Never Been Before!
        - And There Would Be:
          - New Enemies All Around Them!
  - But - Christ Was With Them:
    - To Direct Them:
      - Wherever They Went!
        - And - Not From The Back!
          - But From The Front!
  - Also - Christ Kept His Promise To Moses:
  - By Defending His People:
    - Even As Pharaoh & His Army:
      - Pursued Them Into The Wilderness!
        - But - Christ's Presence Remained:
          - In The Fire & In The Cloud!
    - Because - In Exodus 14:19-20:
      - "And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: / And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness [to them], but it gave light by night [to these]: so that the one came not near the other all the night!"
    - The Presence Of Christ:
      - With His People - As The Angel Of The Lord:
        - Protected Them & Preserved Them!
      - And This Is Still What Christ Does:
        - For Us!
          - In Matthew 28:20 - Jesus Says:
            - "Lo, I am with you alway, [even] unto the end of the world!"
      - When You Trust In Christ:
        - He Promises To Protect & Preserve You:
          - Through His Presence:
            - As You Embark On This New Journey Through:
              - The Wilderness Of This World!
        - But - His Presence Is Even:
          - Closer Than What The Children Of Israel Had!

- To Them - Without The Camp!
- For Us - Within Our Hearts!
- That Is Why - We Can Heed:
  - The Same Instructions That Moses Gave To Joshua:
    - In Deuteronomy 31:8 - “And the LORD, he [it is] that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed!”
- Christ - As The Angel Of The Lord:
  - In The Old Testament:
    - Offers Us - The Promise Of His Presence!
    - But He Also Provides:

## 2. *The Purpose Of His Presence!*

- When The Children Of Israel:
  - Were Led By The Lord To Mount Sinai:
    - Where They Were Given His Law!
  - In Exodus 23:20-23 - He Repeats His Promise:
    - “Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. / Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name [is] in him. / But if thou shalt indeed obey his voice, and do all that I speak; then I will be an enemy unto thine enemies, and an adversary unto thine adversaries. / For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off!”
  - Once Again - The Lord Promises His Presence:
    - By Sending “An Angel Before” Them!
      - Even As He Had Done:
        - Up Until This Time!
    - But - As We’ve Seen Before:
      - This Angel Is No Ordinary Angel!
        - Because - Of This Angel - The Lord Says:
          - “My Name Is In Him!” (23:21)
      - This Angel Is The Same Angel:
        - That Brought Them Out *Into*:
          - The Wilderness! And:
      - This Angel Would Be The Angel:
        - That Leads Them *Through*:
          - The Wilderness!
            - And - Eventually:
              - *Out Of The Wilderness!*
    - Once Again - This Angel:
      - Is Christ! But - Along With A Renewed:
        - Promise Of His Presence:
          - We Are Also Given:
            - The Purpose Of His Presence! A Two-Fold Purpose!
    - First - “To Keep Thee!” (23:20)
      - “To Keep Thee In The Way!”
        - This Refers To What Christ Does:
          - To Guard & Preserve His Us:
            - So That We Won’t Stray From:
              - The Way - Which He Has Laid Out Before Us!
      - Just Think Of All The Things:
        - That Got In The Way:
          - Of The Children Of Israel!
            - Outside The Camp!
            - Inside The Camp!
            - In Their Own Hearts!
      - And - That’s The Same For Us!
        - Enemies Without!

- The World & The Devil!
- Enemies Within!
  - Our Own Flesh!
    - “The Lust Of The Flesh, And The Lust Of The Eyes, And The Pride Of Life!”  
(1 John 2:16)
- All These Things:
  - Will Try To Draw Us Away:
    - From The Way!
  - And That Is Why We Need Christ!
    - Because - It Is Christ Alone:
      - Who Can & Who Will:
        - “Keep Thee In The Way!”
- Second - “To Bring Thee!” (3:20)
  - “To Bring Thee Into The Place Which I Have Prepared!”
    - This Refers To What Christ Does:
      - To Guide Us & Cause Us To Persevere:
        - Until The Very End!
  - For The Children Of Israel:
    - God Had Prepared A Place For Them:
      - In This World - In The Land:
        - Of Israel!
  - For Believers In Christ:
    - Christ Himself Has Prepared A Place For Us:
      - In The World To Come!
        - Starting In Heaven!
    - John 14:2 - “I go to prepare a place for you!”
- The Presence Of Christ:
  - With His People - As The Angel Of The Lord:
    - Protected Them & Preserved Them!
  - And This Is Still What Christ Does:
    - For Us!
  - When You Trust In Christ:
    - His Purpose Is To Guard You & To Guide You:
      - Through His Presence:
        - As You Live Your Life In:
          - The Wilderness Of This World!
  - And That Is Why:
    - We Should Love And Reverence Christ:
      - Even As The Children Of Israel Were Instructed To - In:
        - 23:21 - “Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke/vex/grieve him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name [is] in him!”
  - “Beware” - Same Word - “Keep” - In 23:21!
    - In Other Words - He Will “Keep Thee!”
      - So - You Need To Be Willing To:
        - “Be Kept” By Him!
    - This Is Submission Of Heart - That Leads To:
      - Obedience In Life!
        - For Christ Will Not Pardon Those Who Persist In:
          - Rebellion, Disobedience, And Provocation:
            - Against Him!
  - Isn't This What The Children Of Israel Did:
    - Not Long After They Received The Law?
      - They Rebelled & Disobeyed & Provoked The Lord:
        - By Worshiping A Golden Calf:
          - At The Foot Of Mount Sinai - Even Within View Of The Fire On The Mountain!
    - It Was Then That:
      - In Exodus 33:2-3 - The Lord Said To Moses:

- "I Will Send *An* Angel Before Thee . . . For I Will Not Go Up In The Midst Of Thee; For Thou Art A Stiffnecked People: Lest I Consume Thee In The Way!"
- This Time - The Lord Was Going To:
  - Take Away "The" Angel:
    - Of His Presence - And Lead Them With:
      - "An" Angel!
  - Because - Christ Would Not Pardon Their Transgression!
- That Is - Until - 33:4 - When:
  - "The people heard these evil tidings, they mourned: and no man did put on him his ornaments!"
    - And - Because Of Their Repentance & Moses' Intercession:
      - The Lord Reassured Moses Of His Presence!
  - In 33:14-17 - And he said, My presence shall go [with thee], and I will give thee rest. / And he said unto him, If thy presence go not [with me], carry us not up hence. / For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? [is it] not in that thou goest with us? so shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that [are] upon the face of the earth. / And the LORD said unto Moses, I will do this thing also that thou hast spoken: for thou hast found grace in my sight, and I know thee by name!"
- Christ Will Not Pardon:
  - The Transgressions Of Those:
    - Who Persist In Their:
      - Rebellion & Disobedience & Provocation:
        - Against Him!
  - But - Christ Is Still:
    - "A God Ready To Pardon, Gracious And Merciful, Slow To Anger, And Of Great Kindness!" (Nehemiah 9:17)
- And When You Soften Your Heart:
  - To Submit To Him & Obey Him:
    - Through "Repentance Toward God & Faith Toward The Lord Jesus Christ!" (Acts 20:21)
      - You Will Find Grace In His Sight As Well!
- Christ - As The Angel Of The Lord:
  - In The Old Testament - Offers Us:
    - The *Promise* Of His Presence!
    - The *Purpose* Of His Presence!
    - But He Also Provides:

### 3. ***The Proof Of His Presence!***

- And We See This Toward The End:
  - Of The Journey Of The Children Of Israel:
    - In Numbers 22-24 - When A False-Prophet:
      - By The Name Of Balaam Is Met By:
        - This Same "Angel Of The Lord!"
  - In Numbers 22 - Balak & The Leaders Of Moab:
    - Wanted To Get An Advantage Over:
      - The Children Of Israel:
        - So They Sought Out Balaam To Curse Them!
      - And They Were Willing To Pay Him:
        - Handsomely - With "The Rewards Of Divination!" (22:7)
  - Pick Up The Story:
    - In Numbers 22:20-35!
      - In These Verses - We Find "The Angel Of The Lord" Mentioned:
        - More Times Than Any Other Place In The Bible! 10 Times!
        - And This Time - He Appears To An Unbeliever!
- Why? To *Prove*:
  - His Presence With His People!
    - To Preserve And To Protect Them!
    - To Direct And To Defend Them!
    - To Guide And To Guard Them!

- One Of The Things We Learn From This Episode:
  - Is That - Christ Accomplishes Things:
    - For Us - That Are Often:
      - Invisible To Us!
  - And So - There Are Times When:
    - Christ Proves His Presence:
- Through Restraining:
  - Those Who Would Be Against:
    - His People!
  - This Is What He Did:
    - With Balaam!
  - Throughout The Story:
    - Balaam Tried To Do Everything He Could:
      - To Get Paid & Curse God's People!
    - But Christ Prevented Him & Restrained Him:
      - From Doing So!
      - But, If Balaam Could Have, He Would Have!
- Some Times:
  - Christ Proves His Presence:
    - Through Restraint! But Other Times:
- Through Removing:
  - Those Who Are Against:
    - His People!
  - Later On - In Joshua 13:22:
    - That "Balaam also the son of Beor, the soothsayer, did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them!"
- Christ - As The Angel Of The Lord:
  - In The Old Testament - Offers Us:
    - The Promise Of His Presence!
    - The Purpose Of His Presence! And:
    - The Proof Of His Presence!

**Conclusion:**

1. And Through His Presence:
  - He Will Preserve Us:
    - Until The Very End:
      - Of Our Wandering Through:
        - The Wilderness Of This World!
2. As We Started Tonight:
  - Want To Go Back To:
    - Isaiah 63:9 - And Look At It:
      - From Our Own Perspective!
        - "In All Our Affliction He Was Afflicted, And Christ – The Angel & Messenger Of His Presence – Saved Us! In His Love And In His Pity He Redeemed Us! And He Lifted Us Up, And Carried Us All The Days Of Our Lives!"

**Grace Baptist Church**  
**Stephen Elmer, Pastor**  
**4245 North 200 West**  
**Greenfield, Indiana 46140**  
**317-326-2362**  
[www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace)  
[www.growatgrace.org](http://www.growatgrace.org)  
[pastor-elmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor-elmer@hotmail.com)