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An Overview of the Activities of Jesus Christ Prior to Bethlehem (Part A)

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AN OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF JESUS CHRIST PRIOR TO BETHLEHEM (PART A)

- THE OUTLINE

IN ETERNITY PAST

- A. He was creating the universe (John 1:3; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:2, 10).
- B. He was (and is) holding together this universe (Heb. 1:3; Col. 1:17).
- C. He was fellowshiping with His Father (Prov. 8:22-30; John 17:5, 24)
- D. He was planning for the Church (Eph. 3:8, 9)
- E. He was preparing for a Kingdom (Mt. 25:34)

IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- A. He was involved in the creation of Adam and Eve (Gen. 1:26)
- B. He was involved in the judgment of Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:22)
- C. He was involved in the judgment at the Tower of Babel (Gen. 11:7)
- D. He manifested Himself in a number of theophanies

A theophany is a pre-Bethlehem appearance of Christ. Most evangelical Bible students hold that the recurring Angel of the Lord visitation episodes in the Old Testament are to be identified with Christ Himself. If this be true, here are but a few such instances:

1. The appearance before Abraham (Gen. 22:10-13; John 8:56-58)
2. The three appearances before Moses. All three were connected with Mt. Sinai:
 - a. The first occurred **near** the mountain (Exod. 3:4, 5)
 - b. The second occurred **on** the mountain (Exod. 23:20)
 - c. The final occurred **in** the mountain (Exod. 33:22)
3. The appearance before Joshua: Here He refers to Himself as “the Captain of the host of the Lord” (Josh. 5:13-15)
4. The appearance before three young Hebrew men in a fire (Dan. 3:24, 25)
5. The appearance before Daniel in a lions’ den (Dan. 6:19-22)
6. The appearance before Zechariah (Zech. 1:8-13)