The God of the Old Testament

Most of us have been traditionally taught that Jesus Christ is the God of the New Testament. Nearly all that follow main line Christianity maintains that the Father is the God of the Old Testament. The declaration of a modern Christian is; one that belongs to the New Testament Church and follows Jesus Christ who has done away with the Old Testament laws given by the Father, one living by grace apart from the law. But there is a fundamental disconnect over the law with the churches, where by preaching that one should repent from sinning, defined as breaking the laws of God including His commandments. But how does this happen if the laws in question have been collectively done away with ...is that not being hypocritical? Did the son, Yahshua (Jesus Christ) really do away with the laws of His Father, and who is the Father to allow such a thing to happen?

Perchance there is a flaw in my beliefs causing me to hold fast to false doctrines? There is only one thing that is true, and that is; "God's word."

In our earlier study "No man has seen God," scriptures distinctly stated that; no man has ever seen God the Father at any time, nor heard His voice, that He is invisible, unapproachable light, revealed as being Spirit dwelling in heaven. Continuing in our pursuit for the truth, the quandary which now lay before us asks; Who is the God of the Old Testament? Who was the one that created the world? Who walked with Adam and Eve in the garden? Who was the one that talked to Abraham? Who spoke to Moses and was seen by him? Who was He that was called "My Lord" by David and who was He who spoke to the prophets?

A fork in the road regarding scriptural understanding has arisen. Decades of manmade doctrines handed down from generation to generation have gone both largely unquestioned and unsubstantiated. One can believe the Holy Scriptures, the testimony of Yahshua that **no man has ever seen God the Father at any time, nor heard His voice**, or disregard it, declaring in effect that Yahshua the Christ is a liar, a false witness. Another tact is a wholesale disregard of these verses, calling them unfathomable, a mystery, an unknown, skipping over such verses, keeping preconceived ideas and waiting to the end of time to have truth revealed.

Yet there is another possibility, unthinkable as it may be; that one is void of what the Holy Scriptures are really saying and holds a misconception of the truth contained in The Holy Scripture. That upon further study it may be revealed who is the God of the Old Testament and what part believers have in Yah's (God's) plan of salvation. Thus the question now placed before us is: Who is the God of the Old Testament?

Let this study challenge us to carefully examine the Scriptures to ascertain if what has been preached from the beginning is true, that indeed scripture records the **words** given by Our Creator to us, or has something **changed**? Hence the question can be rephrased: **Who changed**? Was it the God of the Old Testament or the God of the New Testament? For those that have eyes to see let them see and those with ears to hear let them hear...the truth revealed by our Creator in the Holy Scriptures.

John1: 1 In the beginning was **the Word**, and **the Word was with God**, and **the Word was God**. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made (*created*) by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

Jn1:14 And the **Word** was made flesh, (*Yahshua the Christ*) and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Word #3056 logos from 3004; something said (including the thought); by implication a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension, a computation; specially the Divine Expression, account, cause, communication, doctrine, fame, intent, matter, mouth, preaching, question, reason, reckon, saying, speaker, speech, talk, thing, utterance, word, work.

"The Word" is translated from the Greek word "Logos" which can mean variously, word, speech, thought or saying. Being that this term is used to characterize Christ in verse 14, it must be taken as the One who speaks the will of God or in short, the Spokesman of God the Father. It was He, Yahshua the Christ, the Logos or Spokesman, who created all things. Therefore, it is Yahshua (Jesus) who is the Creator God. "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

The "Creator God"

Col 1: 12~18 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear **Son** (*Yahshua*): In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: **Who is the image of the invisible God**, the firstborn of every creature: **For by him were all things created**, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: **all things were created by him**, and for him: And he is before all things, and **by him all things consist**. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that **in all things he might have the preeminence**.

This states the Creator God who created man in Genesis was the same being who later became Yahshua (Jesus Christ)! Interestingly, Gen. 2:7 is the first scripture to use YHWH or Yahweh as the name of God. Note also what Paul states in his letter to the Corinthians.

1Cor 8: 5~6 For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) But to us there is but one God, the Father, **of whom are all things**, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, **by whom are all things**, and we by him.

Here Paul is stating that all things are **from** the Father and come **by or through** the Son Yahshua for He is the **image of the invisible God**. David in the Book of Psalms speaks of his God as being the **Creator that does not change**.

Ps 102: 23~27 He weakened my strength in the way; he shortened my days. I said, O my God, take me not away in the midst of my days: thy years are throughout all generations. **Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands.** They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed: **But thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.**

David declares that the God that he serves **does not change**, remains the same forever; His years have no end. Just as states in Book of Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and forever."

Heb 1: 1~12 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers **by the prophets**, Hath in these last days **spoken unto us by his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, **by whom also he made the worlds**; Who being the brightness of his glory, and **the express image of his person**, and upholding all things by the **word of his power** (*the Holy Spirit*), when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God **worship him**. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son he saith, **Thy throne**, **O God**, **is for ever and ever**: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And, **Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:** They shall perish; but thou

remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: **but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.**

God the Father in these last days **speaks to us by way of his Son** who he hath appointed heir of all things, declaring **by whom also he made the worlds;** noting that Yahshua is the **Creator God**, Who is the brightness of his glory, and **the express image of this invisible God**, upholding all things by the **His power** (His Holy Spirit). Yahshua who purged our sins, now returns to sit at the right hand of the Majesty on high, God the Father, as stated in John Chapter 17:5, "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee **before the world was**."

Here God the Father speaks of the first begotten, Yahshua, to be worshipped and says unto His Son, "**Thy** *throne, O God, is forever and ever.*" The Father is referring to Yahshua as a God and Lord who in the beginning of time laid the foundations of the earth, and the works of the heavens. The Father Himself is declaring that it was His Son, the Lord, Yahshua, who is the Creator God.

Notice the writer of the Book of Hebrews is quoting the scriptures from Psalm 102 describing The Lord of the Old Testament and Yahshua as being one in the same...the Creator God.

Eph 3:1~12 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles, If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: How that **by revelation he made known unto me the mystery**; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in **the mystery of Christ**) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; That the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel: Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

Now Paul reveals this mystery to us that was hidden from us in the past, that Yahshua (Jesus the Christ) the God of the New Testament, our Redeemer, our Savior is also the Creator God by whom all things were created from the beginning of time on earth and in heaven.

Let us look at additional character comparisons found in the Old and the New Testaments to better understand where they differ.

The "Lord of the Old Testament"

In the Old Testament, the name "Yahweh" is used when speaking of the members of the Godhead who spoke to men. It is commonly translated "**the Lord**" as in "**The Lord said**..." This is not really a translation but rather a substitution for the original word for the name of God - Yahweh, which means the "**Self-Existent One**," the "**I Am**" or simply "the Eternal." This name, Yahweh, is actually an approximation of the original expression which when transliterated from Hebrew becomes YHWH or YHVH, known as the tetragrammaton or "the four letters."

After the Babylonian Captivity, the Jews became very superstitious about breaking the Law in the slightest way so they "put a hedge around" God's Law, adding restrictions that far exceeded the original devotional intent of those laws causing them to become a great burden. It was this attitude of making His Law a burden that Christ vigorously attacked during His earthy ministry. One of the measures the Jew's took to keep from

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breaking the Third Commandment; taking God's name in vain, was to substitute the word "Adonai," meaning "Lord," for YHWH when they copied the Scriptures.

This word YHWH or YHVH in Hebrew means; "Was-Is-Will Continue to Be." Then His very name, "Yahweh," quite literally encompasses all aspects of time - past, present and future.

Mal 3: 1~6 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and **the Lord**, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to **his temple**, even **the messenger of the covenant**, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, **saith the LORD of hosts**. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the **LORD** an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the **LORD**, as in the days of old, and as in former years. And I will come near to you **to judgment**; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the **LORD of hosts**. For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Heb13: 7~8 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. Jesus Christ the same **yesterday** (*was*), and **today** (*is*), and **forever** (*future*, *will continue to be*).

Neither of these two Beings of the Old and of the New Testament change in any way; denoting that their countenance and purpose is singular, fulfilling the will of the Father.

"First and the Last"

Observe the references comparing the nature of the God of the Old Testament with the nature of the God of the New Testament who is being referred to as the **beginning** and the **end**, the **first** and the **last**, the **alpha** and **omega**.

Isa 44: 1~8 Yet now hear, O Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen: Thus saith the **LORD that made thee**, and formed thee from the womb, which will help thee; Fear not, O Jacob, my servant; and thou, Jesurun, whom I have chosen. For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring: And they shall spring up as among the grass, as willows by the water courses. One shall say, I am the LORD'S; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto the LORD, and surname himself by the name of Israel. Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his (*Israel's*) redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God. And who, as I, shall call, and shall declare it, and set it in order for me, since I appointed the ancient people? and the things that are coming, and shall come, let them shew unto them. Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no God; I know not any.

Isa 48:9~13 For my name's sake will I defer mine anger, and for my praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off. Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction. For mine own sake, even for mine own sake, will I do it: for how should my name be polluted? and I will not give my glory unto another. Hearken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; I am he; I am the first, I also am the last. Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together.

This God of the Old Testament declares that there is no other God beside Himself, that **He is the first and** the last and He is the Creator by whom the foundations of the earth are laid and by which Israel, the sons of Jacob are made.

Rev 1: 9~11 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the **word of God**, and for **the testimony of Jesus Christ**. I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last:

Rev 1:17~18 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Rev 2: 8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith **the first and the last, which** was dead, and is alive;

Rev 22: 12~14 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. **I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last**. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

The references to the **first** and the **last**, the **beginning** and the **end**, the **alpha** and **omega** in the Old Testament are similar if not the same as found in the New Testament, thus giving a oneness in being. Also notice that the one called the **first and the last** is He which was **dead**, and is **alive**; the one who was raised from the dead that lives forever, Yahshua the Christ.

Many might not want to go where they have never been before, but the righteous shall live by truth. For those that have eyes to see and ears to hear, come follow the trail to truth...for truly it will set you free.

2Pe 2:1~2 But there were **false prophets** also among the people, even as there shall be **false teachers** among you, who privily shall bring in **damnable heresies**, even **denying the Lord** that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And many shall follow their **pernicious ways**; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

The ''Rock''

A common reference to the Lord in the Old Testament was "the Rock." The Old and New Testaments show the Word or "Logos" before becoming a man known as Yahshua (Jesus), was the member of the God Family referred to as "The Rock" who spoke with mankind in Old Testament times.

Dt 32: 1~4 (*Moses speaking*) Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the showers upon the grass: Because I will publish the name of the **LORD**: ascribe ye greatness unto our God. **He is the Rock**, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a **God of truth** and without iniquity, just and right is he.

Dt 32:15 ~18 But Jeshurun (*referring to Israel*) waxed fat, and kicked: thou art waxen fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered with fatness; **then he forsook God which made him**, and lightly esteemed **the Rock of his salvation**. They provoked him to jealousy with strange gods, with abominations provoked they him to anger. They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not. Of **the Rock that begat thee** thou art unmindful, and hast forgotten God that **formed thee**.

Thus "The Rock" which made Israel their Creator God, is also described as "the Rock of their Salvation."

Is a 8:13~14 Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be your fear, and let him be your dread. And he shall be for a **sanctuary**; but for a **stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence** to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

1Sam 2:2 There is none holy as the LORD: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any **rock** like our God.

2Sam 22:1~3 And David spake unto the LORD the words of this song in the day that the LORD had delivered him out of the hand of all his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul: And he said, **The LORD is my Rock**, and my fortress, and my deliverer; **The God of my Rock**; in him will I trust: he is my shield, and the **horn of my salvation**, my high tower, and **my refuge**, **my saviour**; thou savest me from violence.

2Sam 23:1~3 Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said, The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue. **The God of Israel said, the Rock of Israel spake to me**, He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.

Ps 18:2 The LORD is **my rock**, and **my fortress**, and **my deliverer**; **my God**, **my strength**, in whom I will trust; **my buckler**, and **the horn of my salvation**, and **my high tower**. *{my strength: Hebrew; my rock}*

The reference citing the Lord of the Old Testament as being **"The Rock,"** the one that formed mankind, the Creator, the living Sanctuary, **Our Savior** is clearly evident in these scriptures. Notice carefully, when the **"Rock"** spoke to King David, It spoke as the God of Israel, the God of the Old Testament! Yet when comparing what was said in the Book of John, Chapter 5, we see that God the Father **"has never been seen nor heard"**.....so Who was it Who then spoke to King David?

Jn 5:35~38 He was a burning and a shining light (*referring to John the Baptist*): and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light. But I (*referring to Himself, Yahshua who is speaking*) have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that **the Father hath sent me**. And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. **Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.** And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent (*Yahshua*), him ye believe not.

Scripture unmistakably declares that whoever spoke then to King David was certainly not God the Father. So the question unfolds...Who is "**The Rock**" that spoke in the Old Testament?

Ps 118:19~23 Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the LORD: This gate of the LORD, into which the righteous shall enter. I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become **my salvation**. **The stone** which the builders refused is become the **head stone of the corner**. This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

1 Pe 2:6~8 Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Zion a **chief corner stone**, elect, precious: and he that believes on him shall not be confounded. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, **the stone** which the builders disallowed, the same is made the **head of the corner**, And **a stone of stumbling**, and **a rock of offense**, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.

Peter in the New Testament is quoting the above two Old Testament scriptures: Psalm 118:22 and Isaiah 8:14, that refers to Yahshua the Christ being the corner stone and rock of offense.

Ro 9:30~33 What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law (*the laws contained in ordinances*). For they stumbled at that **stumbling stone**; As it is written, Behold, I lay in Zion a **stumbling stone** and **rock of offence**: and whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.

Mt 7:24~25 Therefore whosoever hears these sayings of mine, and does them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Mt 21:42 Jesus says unto them, Did you never read in the scriptures, The **stone which the builders rejected**, the same is become the **head of the corner**: this is the **Lord's doing**, and it is marvelous in our eyes?

Eph 2:18~22 For **through him** (*Yahshua*) we both have access by **one Spirit** unto the Father. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, **Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;** In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

1 Cor 10:1~4 Moreover, brethren, I would not that you should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; And did all eat the same spiritual meat; And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that **spiritual Rock** that followed them: **and that Rock was Christ**.

Yahshua the Christ who spoke to the prophets in the Old Testament is the cornerstone, the stone which the builders rejected, thus referring to the house of Israel. He is "The Rock" of the Old Testament and now has become the "Head of the corner," the chief cornerstone, the Spiritual Rock of our faith. He is a member of the God Family, "Elohiym," who interacted with the Israelites, the One who brought them out of Egypt, gave them the laws of His Father at Mt. Sinai, and brought them into the Promised Land.

The God of the Old Testament... is none other than Yahshua (Jesus Christ) of the New Testament.

Allow these further scriptural references to meld this revelation to better clarify the God of the Old Testament to us.

The ''Shepherd''

Ps 23:1~6 **The LORD is my shepherd**; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell **in the house of the LORD** forever.

Ps 80:1 Give ear, **O Shepherd of Israel**, thou that leads Joseph like a flock; **thou that dwells between the cherubim, shine forth.** (*The cherubim sit on the left and right of the Ark of the Covenant.*)

Isaiah 40:10~11 Behold, the Lord GOD will come with strong hand, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, **his reward is with him**, and his work before him. He shall feed his flock **like a shepherd**: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

The God of the Old Testament is called **My Shepherd**. He is the One that sits between the cherubim atop of the Ark of the Covenant, also called the mercy seat, the throne where God judges man. But who is the judge of man...God the Father or God the Son, Yahshua?

Jn 5:22~23 "For **the Father judgeth no man**, but hath committed **all judgment unto the Son**: That all men should honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He that honored not the Son honored not the Father which hath sent him."

Yahshua is the one seen as the Shepherd of the people sitting atop of the Ark of the Covenant between the cherubim judging mankind. The fork in the road, the choice, before us involves Biblical Scripture revealing truth contrasting to decades of manmade, unsubstantiated doctrine handed down from generation to generation. Or simply put: God's Word of truth verses the doctrines of men?

Lk 13:34~35 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have **gathered thy children together**, as a hen doth gather her brood under her wings, and ye would not! **Behold, your house is left unto you desolate:** and verily I say unto you, Ye shall not see me, until the time come when ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Mt 25:31~33 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be **gathered all nations**: and he shall separate them one from another, **as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats**: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Jn 10:11~14 I am the **good shepherd**: the **good shepherd** giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the **good shepherd**, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

Heb 13:20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, **that great shepherd of the sheep**, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

1Pe 5:4 And when the **chief Shepherd** shall appear, you shall receive a crown of glory that fades not away.

The Lord God of the Old Testament, traditionally labeled as Yahweh, has always been our shepherd, Yahshua, the Christ of the New Testament. Again, scripture shows that they are the same, as their names reflect, each incorporating Yah, the name of the Father. It is stated that Yahshua came in the name of the Father, where by Yahshua means; Yah saves. Hallelu...Yah!

The "Holy One of Israel"

Another description having direct correlation to Yahshua is the "Holy One of Israel." This term is most often used along with the term "Savior" or "Redeemer" which certainly refers to Yahshua the Christ. But in the Old Testament the terms "Holy One of Israel", "Savior" and "Redeemer" reference to the Lord God, the God of the Old Testament. Once again these scriptures tie the fact that Yahshua the Christ was indeed the God of the Old Testament.

Isa 41:14 Fear not, you worm Jacob, and you men of Israel; I will help you, says the **LORD**, and **your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.**

Isa 43:3 For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior:

Isa 45:11~12 Thus says the **LORD**, the Holy One of Israel, and his *(Israel's)* Maker *(Creator)*, Ask me of things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command you me. I have made the earth I, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded."

Isa 54:5 For thy **Maker** is thine husband; the **LORD of hosts** is his name; and **your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel**; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.

Recall, it was the **Word**, Yahshua, who did the creating as stated in John 1:1~3. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made." It is Yahshua the Christ our Messiah that created the world, our maker, our redeemer.

Isa 47:4 As for our redeemer, the LORD of hosts is his name, the Holy One of Israel.

Isa 48:17 Thus saith the **LORD**, thy **Redeemer**, the **Holy One of Israel**; I am the **LORD** thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

Compare these same characteristics with those spoken in the New Testament about Yahshua.

Acts 13: 33~37 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath **raised up Jesus**; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee. And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David. Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine **Holy One** to see corruption. For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, **fell on sleep** (*died*), and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption: But he, whom God raised up, this One saw no corruption.

Gal 4:4~5 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, **To redeem** them that were **under the law**, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

2: 13~14 Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and **our Saviour Jesus Christ**; Who gave himself for us, that he might **redeem us** from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

Jn 4:42 And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed **the Christ**, **the Saviour** of the world.

2Pe 2:20 For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of **the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ**, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

1Jn 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be **the Saviour** of the world.

Thus the "Holy One of Israel," the "Savior," our "Redeemer," once again reference the same Being; the Creator of all things, the Word, the Logos, Yahshua the Christ, the God of the Old and New Testaments, our Lord and Savior.

Who is Melchizedek?

During the time of Abraham there was war among the nations as recorded in the Book of Genesis, Chapter 14. During those wars Abraham's brother's son, Lot who was then living in Sodom and Gomorrah, was captured by a ruling power. Abraham gathered his servants and rescued Lot and returned with all the goods that were taken as well as Lot and his family. Upon returning Abraham meets Melchizedek the King of Salem (Salem from which we get the name Jerusalem). Abraham then offers to The King a tithe of all the good's taken. It is stated that "Melchizedek King of Salem brought forth bread and wine similar to the Passover for he was the **Priest of the Most High God**." But exactly who was this Melchizedek who is called the **Priest of the Most High God**? Could Melchizedek be referring...He was a priest to **God the Father**?

Hebrews 5:5~6: So also **Christ** glorified not himself to be made an **high priest**; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, today have I begotten thee. As he says also in another place, **Thou are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.**

This declaration of being a **High Priest** forever after the order of Melchizedek is also spoken in a message to King David recorded in the book of Psalms.

Ps 110:1~4 The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent *(meaning change)*, **Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.**

Notice that it is the Lord that holds the office of Melchizedek, just as Yahshua is declared to be a **High Priest** forever as Melchizedek was. Yet, who was Melchizedek called the King of Salem and the **Priest of the Most High God**? Is Melchizedek merely a human being or some spiritual entity? The Book of Hebrews describes Him further in Chapter 7.

Hebrews 7:2~3 To whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all; first being by interpretation **King of righteousness**, and after that also **King of Salem** (*Jerusalem*), which is, **King of peace**; Without father, without mother, without descent, **having neither beginning of days**, **nor end of life**; but made like unto the **Son of God**; abides a priest continually (*a High Priest forever*).

The Book of Hebrews could not have been describing a human being, or even an angel in these verses, because he is describing as **Being that eternally existed.** Only the family of God, "Elohym," consisting of the Father and Son has eternally existed.

1Tim 6:13~16 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession; That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ: Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

Melchizedek was and is the **Priest of the Most High God** which is referring to God the Father, **"Our Most High God."** Yahshua Himself said, **"My Father is greater than I"** in John 14:28. And this Melchizedek still lives! Reading further the writer of Hebrews repeats this extremely important fact, that He remains that **High Priest.**

Heb 7:4~8 Now consider how great this man was (*Melchizedek*), unto whom even the patriarch Abraham gave the tenth of the spoils. And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the

priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham: But he (*Melchizedek*) whose descent is not counted from them (*the Levites*) received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises. And without all contradiction **the less is blessed of the better**. And here men **that die** receive tithes (*meaning the Levites who at death, sleep awaiting their resurrection*); but there he (*Melchizedek*) received them, **of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.**

As we continue to read, the Book of Hebrews expressly speaks to us that Yahshua the Christ is our High Priest who intercedes for us on our behalf before the Father.

Heb 7:11~28 If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need was there that another priest should rise after the order of Melchizedek, and not be called after the order of Aaron? For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law (The law contained in ordinances, referring to the sacrificial system, the temple and the Leviticus priesthood). For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Judah; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchizedek there arise that another priest (Yahshua), Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment (The law contained in ordinances) but after the power of an endless life. For he testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment (contained in ordinances) going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. For the law (the sacrificial laws) made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God. And inasmuch as not without an oath he was made priest: (For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek:) By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament. And they truly were many priests, because they were not suffered to continue by reason of death: But this man (Yahshua), because he **continueth forever**, hath an **unchangeable priesthood**. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens; Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people's (the laws contained in ordinances): for this he did once, when he offered up himself. For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore.

Heb 8:1~2 Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an **high priest, who is** set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; (*Yahshua.*) A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

There cannot be two High Priests holding the same office, nor does one replace the other. This High Priest is forever and has no length of days. Thus Melchizedek and Yahshua, Jesus Christ, must be one and the same. This once again demonstrates the fact that the only intercession between God and man has been through the person we now know as "Yahshua the Christ"... the Word, the Logos, the Good Shepherd, The Rock, the Holy One of Israel, our Redeemer, the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last, our Savior, Yahweh of the Old Testament, the Lord of Hosts.

No Man has seen Yah the Father

Before the Son of Yah existed as Yahshua the Christ, the Logos or Word, He was that member of the God Family that spoke with mankind. Yahshua's position or function within the God Family is as the very Word and image of the invisible God. The Lord of the Old Testament spoke to men like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses and others many times as recorded in the scriptures. In fact, Exodus 33:11 reads, "And the LORD spoke unto Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend." If it was indeed God the Father

speaking to them they not only couldn't have heard or seen Him but would have perished on the spot because no person then or now could look upon or approach the Father while in a sin laden state and live. Everyone needs Yahshua as our **High Priest and mediator** to present our degree of repentance to the Father. Due to these established scriptural facts, the words of Yahshua himself and those of the apostles would be in contradiction as to what actually happened making Yahshua's and the apostles' words false testimony, as false witnesses. For the scriptures declare that it was Yahshua that was seen speaking to man Himself. Or how could the following scriptures spoken by Yahshua (Jesus) be discredited?

John 1:18 No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he has declared him.

John 5:37 And the Father himself, which has sent me, has borne witness of me. You have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape.

John 6:46 Not that any man has seen the Father, save he which is of God, he has seen the Father.

1 John 4:12 No man has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwells in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Col 1:14~16 In (*Yahshua*) whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins: Who is **the image of the invisible God**, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created.

Thus now when reading scripture such as Mt 3:17 and alike, it is evident that the voice heard is not that of the Father. But that of a surrogate speaker, perchance Michael or one of the other archangels that preside at the thrown of Yah enlisted to speak on behalf of the Father, since Scripture precludes seeing or hearing the Father.

Mt 3:17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Jn 12:27~30 Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there **a voice from heaven**, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, **An angel spake to him**. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes.

God Is a Family

Mt 11:27 All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knows the Son, but the Father; neither knows any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

Yahshua showed us that the relationships within the Godhead functions as a genuine family. He tells us about the loving relationship which He has with the Father as His Son. And what's more, He invites us to join in that relationship by becoming actual members of the God Family!

John 1:12~13 But as many as received him, to them gave he **power** to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (*By the Spirit of Yah*)

Romans 8:14~17 For as many as are **led by the Spirit of God**, they are the sons of God. For you have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but you have received the **Spirit of adoption**, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children,

then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Rev 2: 7 He that hath an ear, **let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches**; To him that **overcometh** will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

It's all in the doing not the knowing. If one arrives at the conclusion that Holy Scripture is true ... and then continues living in sin, one is a hypocrite, found in denial of that truth given by our Creator instructing us in how to live a righteous life for salvation.

Conclusion:

If Yahshua, the son of God the Father, the Most High God, was the God of the Old Testament being never wrong and **never changing**, what actually did change? The answer...The laws of sacrificial ordinances. These laws were cancelled, done away with, nailed to the cross, no longer applicable, because Yahshua, our High Priest through His love for us following instructions given directly from His God, His father, now affords believers access to the Father through the sacrifice of His Son's blood for our transgressions, thus making Him our High Priest. The question that awaits us is; **What has changed and why**?

Eph 2:14~17 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having **abolished** in his flesh the enmity, **even the law of commandments contained in ordinances**; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

Now with this newly revealed truth that Yahshua was and is the God of the Old Testament, one need's to reevaluate his or her understanding in light of discovering more about this...**never changing God**? Please allow us to help this process in understanding **"what has changed"** by writing for the study: **"What Was Nailed to the Cross?"**

For further scriptural information regarding the appearance of the God of the Old Testament, please write for the study, **"No Man Has Seen God."**

It does not spoil your happiness to confess an error; The unhappiness is in not making the confession.

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