

Jesus: Explainer of the Unseen God (John 1:18)

No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared [Him].

1. **No one has seen God [the Father]**

"No one has seen God at any time."

a. **Adam**

(Gen 3:8-10)⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹ Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where *are* you?"¹⁰ So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." [*Creator Jn 1:3; Col 1:16*]

b. **Jacob**

(Gen 32:24-30)²⁴ Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.²⁵ Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him.²⁶ And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"²⁷ So He said to him, "What *is* your name?" He said, "Jacob."²⁸ And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."²⁹ Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell *me* Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why *is it that* you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there.³⁰ And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." [*Pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus?*]

c. **Moses**

(Ex 33:11) So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle.

(Ex 33:18-23)¹⁸ And he said, "Please, show me Your glory."¹⁹ Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."²⁰ But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live."²¹ And the LORD said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock."²² "So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by."²³ "Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen."

(Ex 34:5-8)⁵ Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.⁶ And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,⁷ "keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."⁸ So Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped.

d. **Joshua**

(Josh 5:13-15)¹³ And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "*Are You* for us or for our adversaries?"¹⁴ So He said, "No, but *as* Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?"¹⁵ Then the Commander of the LORD'S army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand *is* holy." And Joshua did so.

e. **Further Explanation**

i. **"God is a spirit" (John 4:23-24)**

(John 4:23-24)²³ "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.²⁴ "God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

ii. **We have undeniable evidence of God (Rom 1:20-21)**

(Rom 1:20-21)²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

iii. **Will We See God the Father Someday? (Rev 21:3; 22:3)**

(Rev 21:3) And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God.

(Rev 22:3) And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him.

2. **Jesus is God Who Took on a Form that Could Interact with Man**

"The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father,"

a. **He is God and was in the presence of God (John 1:1-2)**

b. **He has a never-ending relationship with God the Father ("Who is...")**

c. **"Only begotten" – Same essence as the Father**

d. **The "trinity" relationship – 3 persons, 1 nature**

e. **"I and my father are one" (John 10:30-31)**

3. **Jesus is THE One Who:**

"He has declared [Him]."

a. **knows God the Father**

b. **shares omniscience with God**

c. **came to accurately explain God in detail (John 3:16)**

d. ***is* "the way, truth, life" (John 14:6)**

e. ***is* the "One mediator" between God and man (1 Tim 2:5-6)**