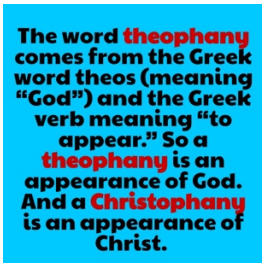
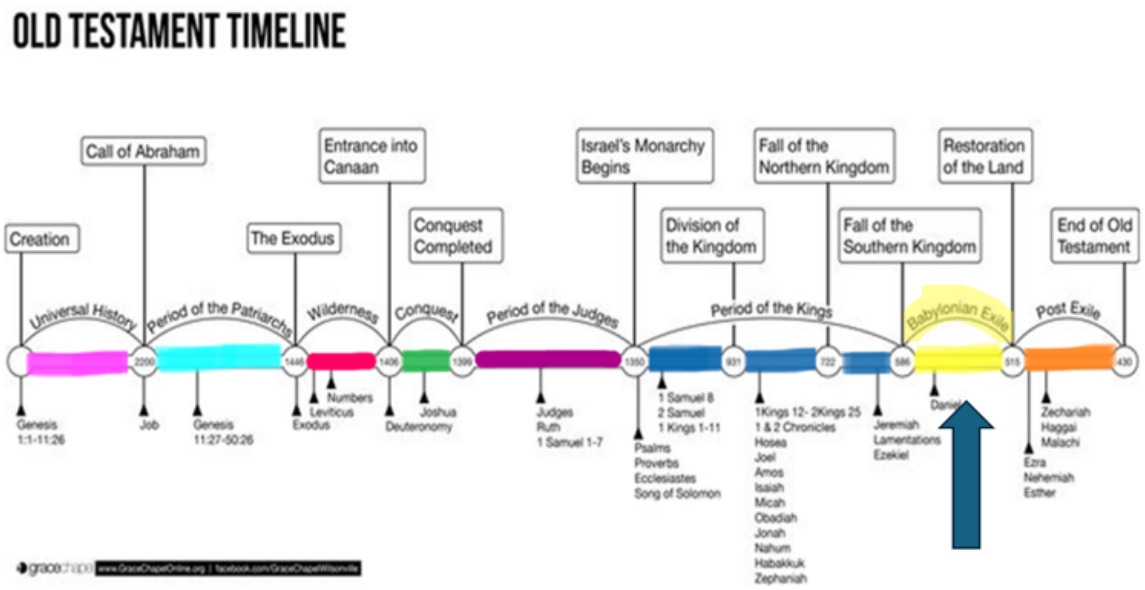
Puzzled Lesson 5 Handout





Daniel 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to give you an answer concerning this matter. 17 If it be *so*, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O

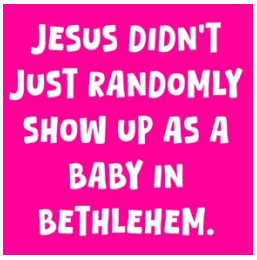
king.[18] But *even* if *He does* not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

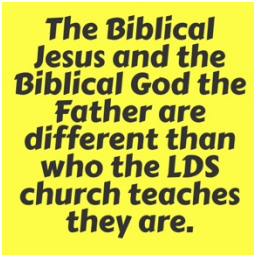
[24] Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astounded and stood up in haste; he said to his high officials, "Was it not three men we cast bound into the midst of the fire?" They replied to the king, "Certainly, O king."

[25] He said, "Look! I see four men loosed and walking about in the midst of the fire without harm, and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods!"

[26] Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the furnace of blazing fire; he responded and said, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, come out, you servants of the Most High God, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego came out of the midst of the fire.

[28] Nebuchadnezzar responded and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, who has sent His angel and delivered His servants who put their trust in Him, violating the king's command, and yielded up their bodies so as not to serve or worship any god except their own God.





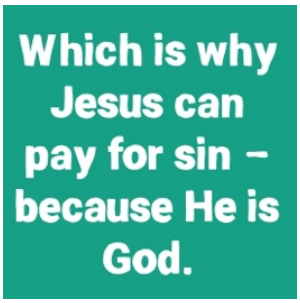
Mormons believe God the Father once existed as a man. In an 1844 sermon known as the <u>King Follett discourse</u>, Joseph Smith (the founder of Mormonism) said, "God himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man, and sits enthroned in yonder heavens!" He went on to say that God "was once a man like us; yea, that God himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth."

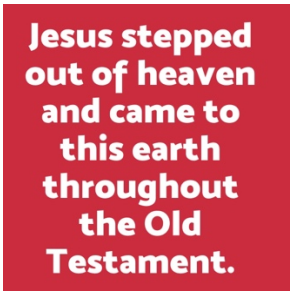
John 1:1

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was fully God.

John 1:14
14 Now the Word became flesh and took up residence among us…

Colossians 1:16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him.
17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.





Genesis 1:26
26 Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, after our likeness…

Exodus 33:20 But He said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!"

John 6:46
46 "Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the One who is from God; He has seen the Father.

John 5:37
37 "And the Father who sent Me, He has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form.

John 1:18
18 No one has ever seen God. The only one, himself God, who is in closest fellowship with the Father, has made God known.

John 14:8–9
8 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be content."
9 Jesus replied, "Have I been with you for so long, and you have not known me, Philip? The person who has seen me has seen the Father! How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

Genesis 16:7
7 Now the angel of the LORD

Genesis 16:7 Now the angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur.

9 Then the angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress, and submit yourself to her authority."
10 Moreover, the angel of the LORD said to her, "I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they will be too many to count."

Genesis 12:1–2
1 The LORD had said to Abram…
2 "I will make you into a great nation…

Genesis 16:13 Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God who sees"; for she said, "Have I even remained alive here after seeing Him?"

Genesis 22:1–2
1 After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."
2 He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."

Genesis 22:11
11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

12 He said, "Do not reach out your hand against the boy, and do not do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me."

Exodus 3
1 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian…
2 And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.

3 And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned."

2 And the angel of the LORD appeared to him

4 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

5 Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

The Angel of the Lord accepts worship that only God would accept.

6 And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Exodus 3:2 And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush...

13 Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"

14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.' "

The Angel of the Lord is in the burning bush.
He says He is God.
He requires worship.
He says His name is "I AM."

John 8:
56 "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."
57 So the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"
58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."
59 Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

J Warner Wallace – author of Cold Case Christianity said this: As a skeptic, I was willing to accept a "nice guy" version of Jesus. You know, the wise sage from the past who was misunderstood and mythicized into something divine by leaders of a movement who were either mistaken or deceptive.

Jesus might have been a nice guy and a great teacher, but did he ever really claim to be God? I had atheist friends who knew more about the Gospels than I did, and they said that Jesus never claimed to be God in any of the New Testament accounts.

Once I began to examine the Gospels for myself, I discovered my friends were wrong; Jesus did say specifically that He was God. Now don't get me wrong, Jesus didn't use those exact words. But His listeners sure understood what He meant.

Like when Jesus says "I am" – the Jews knew exactly who Jesus was saying He was. God Himself.

Exodus 13:21 The LORD was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.

Exodus 14:19

19 The angel of God, who had been going before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them.

Genesis 3:8 They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

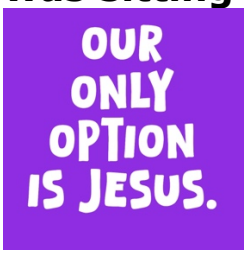
9 Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"
10 He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."

Genesis 18:1 Now the LORD appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, while he was sitting at the tent door in the heat of the day.

2 When he lifted up his eyes and looked, behold, three men were standing opposite him...
4 "Please let a little water be brought and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree;
5 and I will bring a piece of bread, that you may refresh yourselves...
6 So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Quickly, prepare three measures of fine flour, knead it and make bread cakes."
10 He said, "I will surely return to you at this time next year; and behold, Sarah your wife will have a son."

16 Then the men rose up from there, and looked down toward Sodom; and Abraham was walking with them to send them off.
20 And the LORD said, "The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave.
22 Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham was still standing before the LORD.

Genesis 19
1 Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom.



Genesis 32:30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."

Joshua 5
13 Now it came about when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing 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?"

Joshua 5:14 NASB
14 He said, "No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD."

NIV -14 "Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come."

5:14...Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"
15 The captain of the LORD'S host said to Joshua, "Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

Jesus has been here since the beginning.

He is this all-powerful Creator of the Universe.

Who walked with Adam and Eve.

Who led the Israelites for 40 years.

Who wrestled with Jacob.

Who showed up to Abraham and Sarai,

Who showed up to Joshua before they destroyed Jericho.

He is called God because He is a part of the Godhead.