RUSSELL SANDERS
JESUS' PRE-INCARNATION MANIFESTATIONS
PART 9 – THE ANGEL OF THE LORD
ISHMAEL AND ISAAC

The story of Hagar and Ishmael's birth is found in Genesis chapter 16. Verses 7, 9, and 11 says that "the angel of the LORD" FOUND Hagar [vs. 7] and spoke to her [vs. 9 and 11]. She was to bear unto Abraham a son, Ishmael, who would be a "wild man" [vs. 12] and an adversary to other men.

We see that later Ishmael produced nations that would especially afflict Israel in the future. This is an important prophecy spoken by Jesus [the angel of the LORD], so that we can understand the source of the Middle East conflict happening today with Israel. Ishmael bare twelve sons who became the nations that oppose Israel.

Genesis 22:11-18 tells of another theophany. This occurred when Abraham was sent by God to Mount Moriah [Mount Calvary at Jerusalem]. There he was told to sacrifice his son Isaac upon an altar unto God. In verse 11 it says, "the angel of the LORD called unto him [Abraham] out [from] of heaven" to stop him from sacrificing his only begotten son of the promise, Isaac.

This is important because it foreshadowed the Father's (Jah's) sacrifice of His only begotten Son of promise, Jesus. It happened at the very same location that Abraham was at, but two thousand years later.

In our next message we shall continue to look at the significance of the other appearances (theophanies) of Jesus in the Old Testament.