

## Jesus before the Nativity: The Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1-14)

### 1. In the Old Testament fire often \_\_\_\_\_ God's judgment of sin and refining believers' faith.

“And I will bring the third part through the fire, Refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will listen and answer them; I will say, ‘They are My people,’ And they will say, ‘The Lord is my God.’”  
(Zechariah 13:9 AMP)

For our “God is a consuming fire.” (Hebrews 12:29 NIV)

But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like launderer's soap [which removes impurities and uncleanness]. (Malachi 3:2 AMP)

### 2. In the Bible, since the Garden of Eden, the symbol of \_\_\_\_\_ is thorns.

Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; (Genesis 3:18a AMP)

O Lord, who has believed our report? and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? We brought a report as **of a child** before him; he is as a **root** in a **thirsty land**: he has no form nor comeliness; and we saw him, but he had no form nor beauty. But his form

was ignoble, and inferior to that of the children of men; he was a man in suffering, and acquainted with the bearing of sickness, for his face is turned from us: he was dishonored, and not esteemed. **He bears our sins** and is pained for us: yet we accounted him to be in trouble, and in suffering, and in affliction. (Isaiah 53:1-4 BST)

### 3. The Logos revealed Himself to Moses in a voice, and the Word revealed Himself to mankind in a manger as the \_\_\_\_\_.

Going through a long line of prophets, God has been addressing our ancestors in different ways for centuries. Recently he spoke to us directly through his Son. By his Son, *God created the world* in the beginning, and it will all belong to the Son at the end. This Son *perfectly mirrors God*, and is stamped with God's nature. He holds everything together by what he says—powerful words!” (Hebrews 1:1-2 MSG)

Suddenly King Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in alarm and said, “Didn't we throw three men, bound hand and foot, into the fire?”

“That's right, O king,” they said. “But look!” he said. “I see four men, walking around freely in the fire, completely unharmed! And the fourth man looks like a son of the gods!” (Daniel 3:24-25 MSG)