

STUDY NOTES FROM KAREN HOERDEL'S "HEBREW NAMES OF GOD" TEACHING SERIES

ADONAI

ADONAI = Lord (all capitals LORD = JEHOVAH)

Master, owner; a claim upon man's obedience and service.

Always singular "adon" (some 215 times) when used of men and is translated "master",
"sir" or "lord".

Almost always plural, "Adonai" (over 300 times) when referring to God.

Suggests the idea of the Trinity as does Elohim.

Psalm 110:1 - The LORD (JEHOVAH) said unto my Lord (Adon), "sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool."

David uses the singular Adon because one member of the Godhead, the Father, is speaking to the second person of the Trinity - Jesus.

This verse from Psalm 110:1 is quoted by Jesus in

Matthew 22:41-45

and by Peter in Acts 2:34-35 and in Hebrews 1:13; 10:12-13.

"Lord" signifies ownership or mastership. Jesus claims the unrestricted obedience of all.

Deuteronomy 10:17 - Lord of lords; Master of masters

Malachi 1:6 - He claims obedience

Job 28:28 - the fear of Adonai is wisdom, respect and awesome reverence

Genesis 15:2 - first used with Abraham

Comes after rescue of Lot and defeat of the four kings and their armies, when Abraham was lord or master over many.

Abraham understood lordship meant complete possession, demanding complete submission.

Abraham acknowledged God's complete possession of and perfect right to all that he was and all that he had.

Deuteronomy 15:12-17

In Israel the purchased slave belonged to the master and so was a member of the family and could attend the Passover. The slave had the right of the master's protection (and affection).

Exodus 4:10,13 - the Master equips His servants

Moses acknowledges God's right to his life and service

God does not ask what cannot be performed and never requires a task for which he does not equip.

II Samuel 7:18-20 - used four times in three verses

Psalm 8 - Lord over all the earth

Isaiah 6:1 - the earthly lord Uzziah dies but Lord of lords lives and reigns

Isaiah 6:8 - call for service

Ezekiel 37:9 - Adonai Jehovah occurs 200 times in Ezekiel

God claims His Lordship over Israel and over all nations.

In the New Testament the Greek word "Kurios" is used of men and hundreds of times of the Lord Jesus.

Luke 6:46 - Lordship requires obedience (Matthew 7:22-23;25:11-12)
Isaiah 42:1, Philippians 2:7-8, John 13:13-17 - Our Lord is also a servant
Romans 10:9 - "Kurios Jesus" = "Adonai Jehovah"
I Corinthians 6:20 - you are a purchased slave
I Peter 1:18-19 - bought by the blood of Jesus

To be a servant of the Lord is the greatest liberty and joy of all. Man is born to worship and serve. If one does not serve God, one is worshipping the devil - and is a slave to sin.

Romans 6:22 - God is not looking for great preachers, educators or missionaries.
II Timothy 2:21 - He is looking for faithful servants, ordinary men and women that He can mold into vessels of honor fit for the Master's use.

Matthew 25:23 - Words we want to hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Adonai:

If the Lord is my Shepherd, I am His sheep. If the Lord is my Master, I am His servant. It's that precise, and there is no getting around it. The Adonai has every right to expect total, unquestioning obedience. And the servant can rest in the assurance that the Adonai will always give clear direction, adequate provision and omnipotent protection. The Adonai never assigns His servant a task that He does not empower him to accomplish. If Adonai commands that His servant jump through a wall, it is the servant's responsibility to run as fast as he can and jump as hard as he is able - it is the Adonai's responsibility to make the hole in the wall.

Praise Adonai!