

STUDYING  
THE NAMES OF  
GOD



# Moses asked God...

What *is* His name?

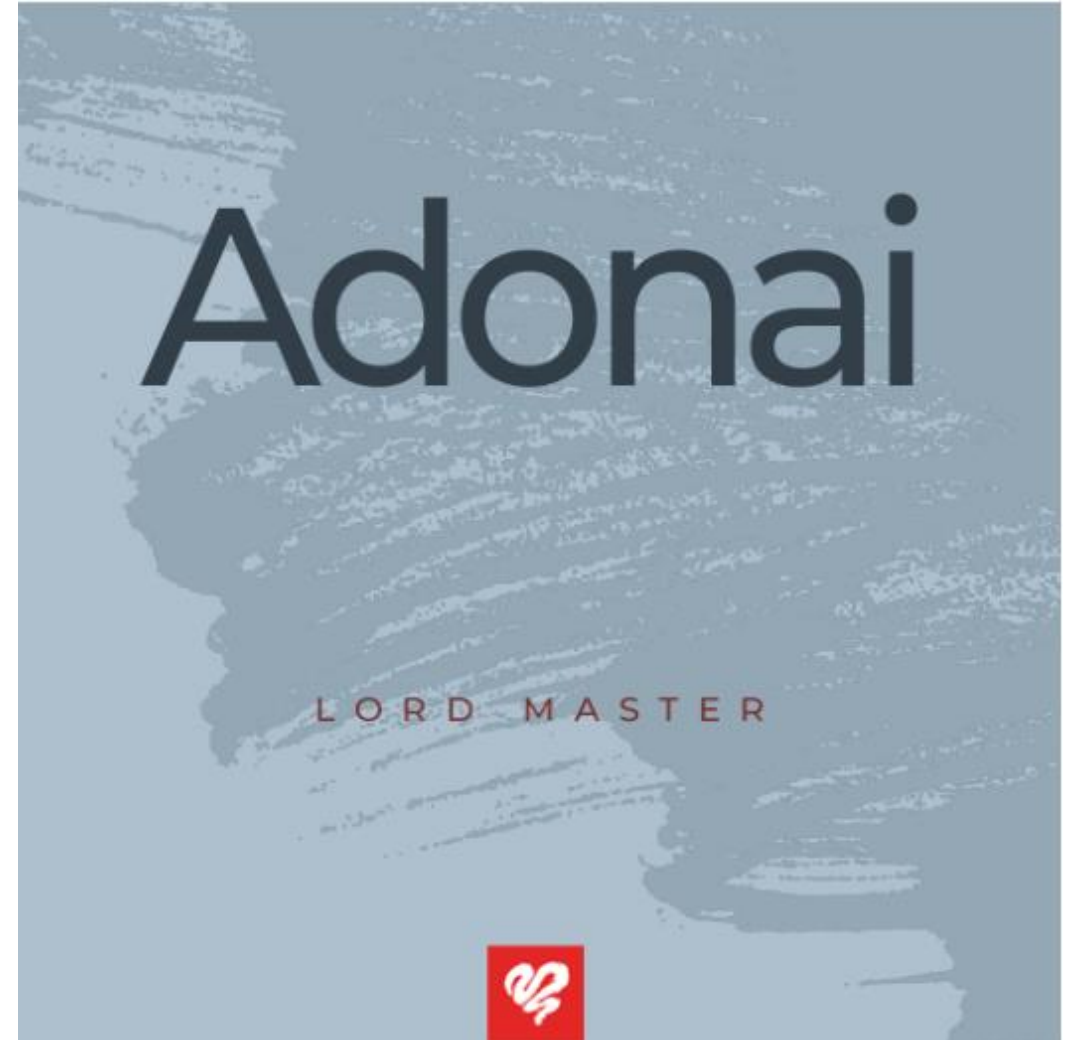
What shall I say to them?

Moreover, God said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. **This *is* My name forever, and this *is* My memorial to all generations.**’ Exodus 3:15

GOD SAID TO MOSES,  
“I AM WHO I AM”

EXODUS 3:14

**“Yes, I swore an oath to you and entered into a covenant with you, and you became Mine,” says the Lord GOD” ([Ezekiel 16:8b](#)).**



# Clarify Any Assumptions

- What is our first reaction to this title, Adonai?
- Do we acknowledge God as Ruler, Master, Owner of our life?
- Are we willing to surrender before Him as Lord albeit that Christ is our Savior?
- Do we give all our rights to be owned by God more than what the Bible says He can do?
- The modern Christian has settled for Jehovah without experiencing the full power of Adonai.

# Adonai – Lord & Master (Facts and Figures)

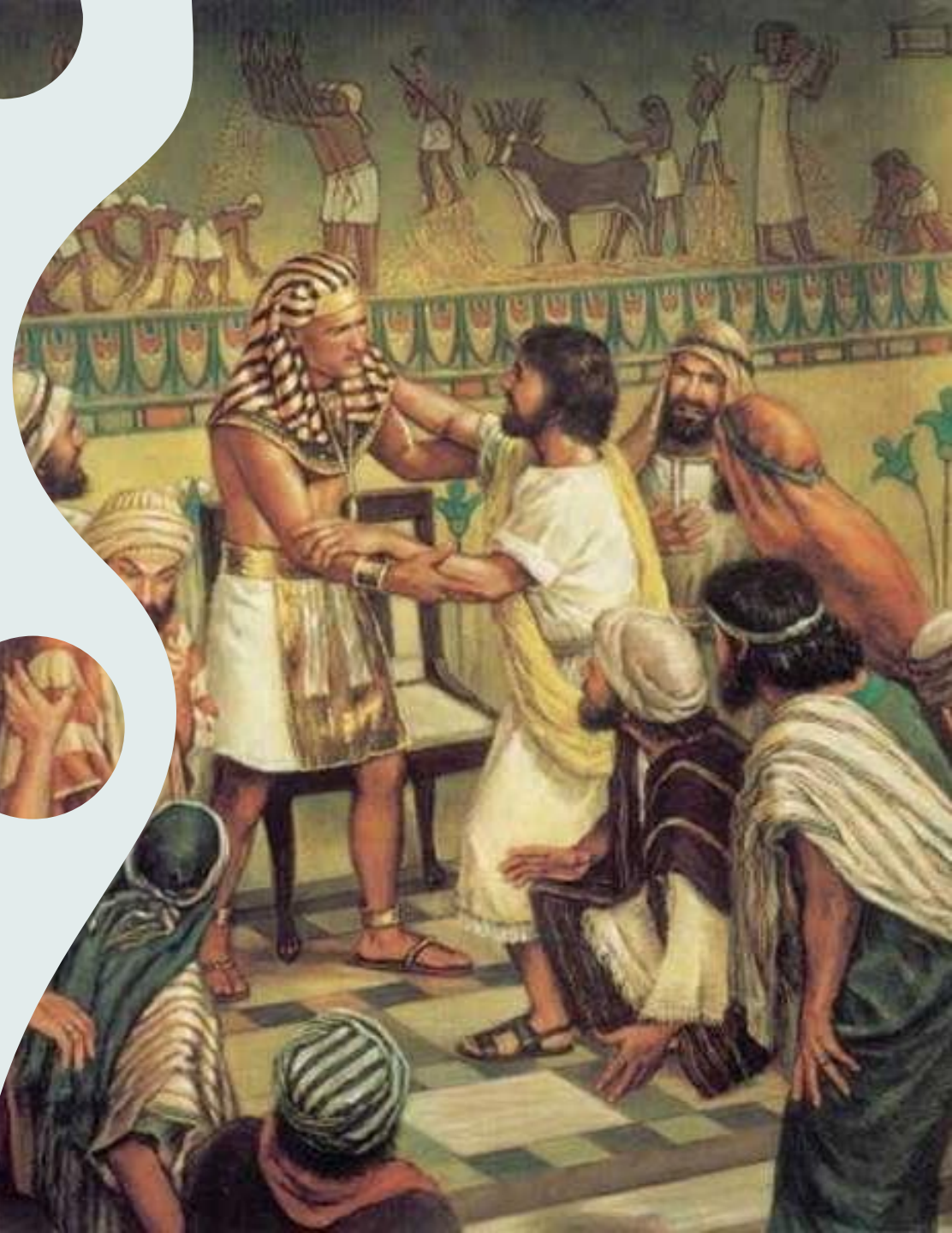
- Adonai is a title used for God. The title most frequently used in the Old Testament.
- Adonai is translated into English as **Lord**.
- Adonai is the rendition of the simple name **ADON**.
- Adon appears **330 times** in the Old Testament but used for God only **30 times**.
- Adonai occurs **449 times** in the bible, but **315 times** linked immediately to the name *Yahweh*.

# Yahweh Vs. Adonai

- The name **Yahweh - LORD God** is highly revered and sacred to the Jewish people.
- Yahweh is not used randomly unless Jews violated the name of God. (*Exodus 20:7*)
- The Lord's Prayer begins by hallowing the name of God
- John 8:58 - Jesus said to them, *"Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."*
- ADONAI is the alternate name used for the indescribable name of YAHWEH.

# What does ADON mean?

- Adon means administrator or steward.
- Adon exercises Lord over a house or people.
- Joseph exercises the role of Adon!
- Genesis 44:16 – So Judah said, *“What can we say to my Lord”...*



# ADON to ADONAI

- Adon**ai** – suffix (ai) is added to the basis word – ADON.
- Adonai is the **suffix of intensification** to exercise Lordship at the highest level.
- Adonai is the ultimate title of God that calls attention to His sovereignty or authority.
  
- Example in N.T. – The name **JESUS CHRIST**.
  - “**Jesus**” is His given name as “**Yahweh is salvation**” (*Matt 1:21, Luke 1:31, Exodus 3:14*)
  - “**Christ**” is His title as “**Messiah**” (*Luke 1:31, Daniel 9:25, Isaiah 32:1*)
  - Jesus Christ means “Jesus the Messiah” or “Jesus the Anointed One” (*Isaiah 9:6, Micah 5:2, Zechariah 9:9, Psalm 22:16-18, and Isaiah 53*).
  - **Kurios** is a Greek word translated as Lord or Master. *Hebrew for Kurios = Adonai*
  - Philippians 2:7-11 – *Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*



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**Psalm 110:1** – The **LORD** says to my **Lord**: “Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet”

- King David is speaking of a conversation that Yahweh is having with Adonai.
- N.T. Writers applied the term Adonai to Jesus Christ

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**Psalm 8:1**- O **LORD**, our **Lord**, How majestic is Your name is all the earth, who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!

- “**O Yahweh, our Adonai**” The title Adonai is immediately linked to the name Yahweh.
- Adonai is associated with the concept of omnipotence and authority.



# Function of Adonai in Worship

- Adonai is intensified in worship and high adoration
- **Isaiah Ch. 6** - Isaiah's Vision
  - *Verse 1* - In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the **Lord** sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.
  - *Verse 3* - And one called out to another and said, Holy, Holy, Holy is the **LORD** of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.
  - *Verse 5* - ... For my eyes have seen the King, the **Lord** of hosts.
- Supreme expression of God in worship to His authority and sovereignty.
- Thomas replied, My Lord and my God! (*John 20:28*)

# Attribute of God in Adonai

- Sovereignty is essential to God
- R.C. Sproul - *If God is not sovereign God, is not God. If God is not sovereign, we are worshiping an idol.*
- God is sovereign and has absolute authority over everything and complete authority over my life.
- The sovereign God demands my worship. I am not able to make demands but surrender it all to Him.

# Practical Reflections

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Calling God Adonai - Acknowledges both His leadership and ownership as our Lord, Master, Owner.

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Cause us to approach God with great reverence. Evoke emotions of deep gratitude because of His loving ownership.

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Surrender our will to Adonai because He commands for our good.

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Thank God for delivering us through difficult times, protection, and correction over us.

# Coram Deo

Our greatest temptation as Christians is to live as if Jesus is not the Lord of our Lives. When culture sets the agenda for our worship and ethics, it has become our Lord, if we do not confess Christ in the face of hostility at home or in the workplace, we have walked away from the authority of God. It is therefore incumbent upon us to do all we can to recognize Jesus' authority over everything. Christ is Lord over all.