

Adonai

(Lord, Master)

First time used in the Bible: Genesis 15, verse 2:

"And Abram said, Lord GOD, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house [is] this Eliezer of Damascus?"

INFORMATION

Adonai is a Hebrew word that we do not see directly in the King James Bible. It is translated as "Lord", or "my Lord". The word itself is used over 400 times in the Bible. The name *Adonai* tells us that God is not just an idea we are to think about, but is the one and only Master of the universe. As such, he is supposed to be the Master of our lives. It is interesting that the first time, *Adonai*, is seen in the Bible, it shows that even though God is Master, he is approachable. God is not like other men who we think of as "masters". The term master can have a very negative connotation to us today, but with God it is a supremely positive thought.

WHAT IT MEANS TO OUR FAMILY

We are servants to "The Master" our God, but we are not slaves to him. God is not our master in the same way that American slave owners were masters to their slaves. While God does have a status much greater than us, he sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be with us, to save us, to redeem us, and to make us his children. *Adonai* is a term of great endearment, great love and affection, and one that we can always feel safe using to show our reverence for Him. Look at *Adonai*, and remember that God is the master of everything and beyond.

Relevant Passages

Luke 17:12-14

And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: 13 And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. 14 And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

Luke 18:18

And a certain ruler asked him, saying, Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?

Luke 22:11

And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?

John 13:13-14

Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

Colossians 4:1

Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.