

Names of God - Lord (Adonai)

Intro: For us personally, this may be the most challenging name by which God is known. To call anyone Lord, is to give evidence of the authority this person has in our lives. Let's try to gain a better understanding of why the God who made us is also our Lord.

1. The Word "Lord" or Adonai in our Bibles
 - a. It is spelled Lord not LORD (Yahweh)
 - b. Appears almost 300 times in OT
 - c. When referring to people, adon (singular) is used.
 - d. When referring to God, adonai (plural) is used.
 - e. First used in Genesis 15:2. Note "God uses" in 15:1-4

2. The Message That It Communicates
 - a. Illustrated in Malachi 1
 - b. Abram wonders how God can fulfill his promise to him. Gen. 15
 - c. Calling God, Lord implies his ownership
 - d. Calling God, Lord implies our submission.
 - e. It communicates both c and d, but also a call to service.
 - f. In Exodus 4, Moses was acknowledging God, but not his lordship. (This is a continual struggle in our relationship with God.)

3. Illustrations of Uses And The Lessons They Teach.
 - a. Gideon – Judges 6
 - b. David – Psalms 8:1,9; 141:8; 109:21
 - c. Isaiah – Isa. 6:1, 8
 - d. Daniel – Dan. 9:4ff
 - e. In New Testament – "Service" is a continual theme - John 12:26; 13:13-15; 1 Timothy 1:12

Conclusion: Ken Hemphill suggest there are 3 characteristics of those who actually recognize God as Lord (Adonai): (1) They acknowledge themselves as servants. (2) They understand their master can supply all their needs. (3) They realize they can do whatever their Lord asks them to do.