

THE LORD

In Holy Scriptures, the title “Lord” is synonymous with “God.” Throughout the Old Testament, God is referred to with the name “Lord” more than 1,000 times. Here are a few characteristic examples:

“In the day the Lord God made heaven and earth” (Gen. 2:4).

“Therefore, you shall love the Lord your God, and always keep His commandments” (Dt. 11:1).

“I am the Lord God ... I am the Lord who created you” (Is. 45: 7-8).

“And let them know that Your name is the Lord” (Ps. 82:19).

“I will give thanks to You, O Lord my God” (Ps. 85:11).

In the New Testament, Jesus Christ is referred to as “Lord” over 100 times. Here are some examples in the New Testament where holy men and women clearly refer to Jesus Christ with the name Lord, unmistakably proclaiming that Jesus is God:

Elizabeth after being filled by the Holy Spirit calls Jesus Christ her Lord: **“Why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” (Lk. 1:43).**

The Prophet Zachariah, after being filled with the Holy Spirit, while addressing his son the Honorable Forerunner, calls Jesus Christ Lord: **“And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways” (Lk. 1:76).**

On the night of Jesus’ birth, the angel announced to the shepherds that Jesus Christ is the Lord: **“For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Lk. 2:11).**

The Apostle Ananias says to the Apostle Paul that the Lord Who sent him is Jesus: **“Brother Saul, the Lord has sent me, Jesus who appeared to you” (Acts 9:17).**

The Apostle Peter plainly calls Jesus Christ Lord: **“preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is the Lord of all” (Acts 10:36).**

The prophet David calls God his “God and Lord”: **“Arise, O Lord, attend to my judgment, My God and my Lord” (Ps. 34:23)**. Behold how after Christ’s resurrection, the Apostle Thomas uses these exact same words to confess that Jesus Christ is his “Lord and God”: “And Thomas answered and said to Him, [You are] **‘My Lord and my God!’**” (Jn. 20:28).

The prophet David, when urging us to render thanksgiving to God calls Him the “Lord of lords”: **“Give thanks to the Lord of lords” (Ps. 135:3)**. In the book of Revelation, St. John the Apostle and Evangelist similarly affirms that Jesus Christ is the “Lord of lords”: **“And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: King of Kings and Lord of Lords” (Rev. 19:16)**.

Jesus Christ Himself, desiring to reveal His identity as Lord to the Jews, asked them the following: **“What do you think about Christ? Whose Son is He?’ They said to Him, ‘The Son of David.’ He said to them, ‘How then does David in the Spirit call Him Lord, saying: The Lord said to my Lord, sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool? If David then calls Him Lord, how is He his Son?’” (Mt. 22:44-45)**.

The Jews were awaiting for the Messiah who would liberate Israel. The prophets had clearly spoken about the Savior and Messiah’s two natures. The prophet Isaiah calls the Messiah “Mighty God”: **“A child is born to us, and a son is given to us. And his name is called the Angel of Great Counsel .. Mighty God (Isa. 9:5-6)**. Elsewhere the Messiah is referred to as a human: **“And there shall come for a rod out of the root of Jesse, and a blossom shall come up from his root. And the Spirit of God shall rest upon him” (Isa. 11:1-4)**. Jesus Christ asked them the above question desiring to help them comprehend the meaning of the prophecies and to realize that He is the Savior and Messiah—because through this question, Jesus Christ attributes to Himself the title “Lord.”

Indeed! Who else could the prophet David have been calling “my Lord” other than our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ? How would it be possible for the prophet David, who was a devout adherent to the Jewish faith, to refer to a second person (other than God) as “my Lord,” thus rendering to him an honor and title equal to God, unless he was referring to the Son of God, Who is True God consubstantial with God the Father? Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, King David foresaw that the Son of God would come to the earth, and that, after His Resurrection, He would ascend back into heaven with the human nature to be enthroned at the right of God the Father. Therefore, He Who would liberate Israel would necessarily be the Son of God, true God Himself, even though He was to be born according to the flesh from the generation of David. This is why David calls him “Lord” despite the fact that He would be one of his descendants according to the flesh.

This is how Jesus Christ instructed the Jews to believe that He is God, and not to disbelieve on account of the human flesh He assumed. This is why the prophet David called Jesus Christ his Lord and God, despite the fact that David would be the father of the Lord according to His human lineage. This is why our Savior Jesus Christ asked the Jews: If David calls him (the Messiah) Lord and God, why do you deny, why do you not accept, that I am the incarnate Lord and God Whom the prophets spoke about?

Hence, the Lord God of Israel of the Old Testament and the Lord Jesus Christ of the New Testament are one and the same God.