

What data do we have about how Jesus saw YHWH of the OT?

PRIMARY: Passages where He quotes or refers to explicit YHWH-connected texts from the Hebrew Bible (using terms with LORD or GOD or titles/circumlocutions --e.g. “Most High”, “Power”-- in them.)

1	Matt. 4:4 (Lk 4 from Deuteronomy 8.3)
2	Matt. 4:7 (Lk 4) from Deuteronomy 6.16
3	Matt. 4:10 (Lk 4) from Deuteronomy 6.13, 10:20
4	Matt. 9:13 (and 12:7) from Hosea 6.6
5	Matt. 11:10 (Lk 7:27) from Malachi 3.1
6	Matt. 11:25 (Luke 10:21) from Gen 14.22
7	Matt. 13:14–15 (Mark 4:12; Luke 8:10) from Isaiah 6:9–10
8	Matt. 15:4 (Mr 7:10) from Exodus 20.12 and/or Deut 5.16
9	Matt. 15:4 (Mr 7:10) from Exodus 21.17
10	Matt. 15:8–9 (Mark 7:6–7) from Isaiah 29.13
11	Matt. 19:4 (Mar 10:6) from Genesis 1.27 [Mark adds “God”]
12	Matt. 19:5 from Genesis 5.2
13	Matt. 21:13 (Mark 11:17; Luke 19:46) from Isaiah 56.7
14	Matt. 21:13 (Mark 11:17; Luke 19:46) from Jeremiah 7.11
15	Matt. 21:16 from Psalms 8.2
16	Matt. 21:42 (Mark 12:11) from Psalms 118:22–23
17	Matt. 22:32 (Mark 12:26; Luke 20:37) from Exodus 3.6
18	Matt. 22:37 (Mark 12:30, 33; Luke 10:27) from Deuteronomy 6:5 [Mr: adds Shema]
19	Matt 26:28; (Mrk 14:22; Luke 22:20 with Matt 20:28) from Jer 31.31–34 and Is 52–53
20	Matt. 22:44 (Mark 12:36; Luke 20:42–43) from Psalms 110.1
21	Matt. 26:31 (Mark 14:27) from Zech 13:7
22	Matt. 26:64 (Mark 14:26) from Psalms 110.1
23	Matt. 27:46 (Mark 15:34) from Psalms 22.1
24	Luke 4:18–19 from Is 61.1–2 ; (and 42.6–7 allusion)
25	Luke 23:46 from Psalm 31.5
26	John 6:45 from Is 54:13

We have PLENTY of EXPLICIT DATA from Jesus -- The clearest OT-quote verses we will step through are these.

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When we do a quick tally / step-through of how Jesus represented the OT deity in Matthew's OT quotes, we get a table/list like this:

Count	Ref DATA	Matthew text	OT terms for God	How Jesus represents OT deity
1	Matt. 4:4 (Lk 4) from Deuteronomy 8.3	But he answered, "It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” "	YHWH, YHWH-Elohim	Positive, supreme authority for Him
2	Matt. 4:7 (Lk 4) from Deuteronomy 6.16	Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ "	YHWH-Elohim	Positive, supreme authority for Him
3	Matt. 4:10 (Lk 4) from Deuteronomy 6.13, 10:20	Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.” "	YHWH-Elohim	Positive, the only God for Jesus (and completely distinct from Satan)
4	Matt. 9:13 (and 12:7) from Hosea 6.6	Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ (2x)	YHWH, Elohim, YHWH-Elohim	Positive, good-hearted
5	Matt. 11:10 (Lk 7:27) from Malachi 3.1	This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.”	YHWH-TSABOTTH (LORD of HOSTS)	Positive, executing the messianic plan

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Count		Remember:	presents OT deity
1	Ma D	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Any positive reference to the deity associated with the OT quote would be CONTRARY to Jesus’ mission to turn Israel AWAY from such a deity; andAny positive use of the passage associated with that deity would be CONTRARY to a mission to turn Israel away from the deity of that passage.The more such positive references / uses occur in His words, the bigger His failure would be, if they were of/about Satan.	ne authority for Him
2	Ma De		ne authority for Him
3	Mat Deute		only God for Jesus (distinct from Satan)
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6	Matt. 11:25 (Luke 10:21) from Gen 14.22	At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth , that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children;	YHWH, El Elyon, "Possessor of Heaven and Earth"	Jesus' Father , Positive, co-executing the messianic plan Supreme Lord over All – angels, Satan, demons, humans, etc.
7	Matt. 13:14–15 (Mark 4:12; Luke 8:10) from Isaiah 6:9–10 [Mr, Lk make this the <u>reason</u> Jesus uses parables]	Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: ""You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive." For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.	Adoni, YHWH	Positive, co-executing the messianic plan Realistic, confirming His knowledge to Jesus
8	Matt. 15:4 (Mr 7:10) from Exodus 20.12 and/or Deut 5.16	For God commanded, ' Honor your father and your mother, '	YHWH-Elohim	Positive, supreme authority for Israel, Community/Survival supportive
9	Matt. 15:4 (Mr 7:10) from Exodus 21.17	For God commanded, 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, ' Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die. '	YHWH	Positive, supreme authority for Israel, Community/Survival supportive
10	Matt. 15:8–9 (Mark 7:6–7) from Isaiah 29.13	You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: ""This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.""	Adoni, YHWH	Positive, worthy of honor and worship

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11	Matt. 19:4 (Mar 10:6) from Genesis 1.27 [Mark adds "God"]	He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,	Elohim	Positive, Community-Survival supportive
12	Matt. 19:5 from Genesis 5.2	He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,	Elohim	Positive, Community-Survival supportive
13	Matt. 21:13 (Mark 11:17; Luke 19:46) from Isaiah 56.7	He said to them, "It is written, ' My house shall be called a house of prayer, ' but you make it a den of robbers."	YHWH, YHWH-Adoni	Positive, approachable-beneficent
14	Matt. 21:13 (Mark 11:17; Luke 19:46) from Jeremiah 7.11	He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers. "	YHWH	Positive, confronting social evils
15	Matt. 21:16 from Psalms 8.2	and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, " Yes; have you never read, "'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise'?"	YHWH-Adoni ("O LORD our LORD)	Positive, inclusive, planning against community evils
16	Matt. 21:42 (Mark 12:11) from Psalms 118:22-23	Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: " "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"	YHWH	Positive, egalitarian (status reversal)

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17	Matt. 22:32 (Mark 12:26; Luke 20:37) from Exodus 3.6 [M: spoke to <u>him</u> ; Lk: Moses calls the Lord (k), the God(T) of A/I/J_]	And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?	YHWH, Elohim	Positive, life-affirming (resurrection) Authoritative to Jesus' time
18	Matt. 22:37 (Mark 12:30, 33; Luke 10:27) from Deuteronomy 6:5 [Mr: adds Shema]	And he said to him, " You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.	YHWH-Elohim	Positive, highest worth in universe; supreme Companion
19	Matt 26:28; (Mrk 14:22; Luke 22:20 with Matt 20:28) from Jer 31.31-34 and Is 52-53	<p>(Matt) for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins;</p> <p>(Lk) And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.</p> <p>(Mt) even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."</p>	YHWH of the 1 st Covenant; (Elohim too)	Realistic, creator of redemptive plan out of personal cost (within the Trinity)

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20	Matt. 22:44 (Mark 12:36; Luke 20:42-43) from Psalms 110.1 [Mr: Holy Spirit; Lk 'in book of Psalms']	He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord [kyrios] , saying, "The Lord [kyrios] said to my Lord [kyrios], "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet" ?"	Adoni, YHWH	Positive, building and executing the messianic plan
21	Matt. 26:31 (Mark 14:27) from Zech 13:7	Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' "	YHWH of Hosts	Realistic, co-execution of Messianic plan; Redemptive: sacrifice, purification
22	Matt. 26:64 (Mark 14:26) from Psalms 110.1	But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."	Adoni, YHWH	Positive, Jesus affirming
23	Matt. 27:46 (Mark 15:34) from Psalms 22.1	And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"	El, YHWH	Realistic, co-execution of Messianic plan; As YHWH, positive, as deliverer of sufferer.

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Before we move on to passages about the Father, let's quickly examine any unique passages from the other gospels, which seem to quote or refer to an OT passage with the deity in them:

24	Luke 4:18–19 from Is 61.1-2 (and 42.6-7 allusion)	And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, " The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. " And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."	Adonai- YHWH, YHWH, Elohim	Super-positive, redemptive, messianic
25	Luke 23:46 from Psalm 31.5	Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, " Father, into your hands I commit my spirit! " And having said this he breathed his last.	YHWH, Elohim	Positive, trustworthy, FATHER!
26	John 6:45 from Is 54:13	No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, " And they will all be taught by God. " Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me—	YHWH	Positive, teacher and revealer, leads to Christ; FATHER!

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SUMMARY:

1. We have at least 25+ very explicit references to the OT deity YHWH, all of which are positive affirmations--by Jesus--that this God is the true one—to be worshipped, obeyed, trusted and listened to via Scripture.
2. Two or three of these explicitly identify the Father with YHWH.
3. Instead of **MANY, STRONG, and CLEAR denunciations**, we get instead **MANY, STRONG, and CLEAR affirmations and endorsements**.

We could stop right here and be done, since there would be almost zero chance of coming up with some way to ‘spin’ these verses away. Any data that seemed to support the position that JESUS knew the OT YHWH to be evil or Satan, would be counter to all this explicit data—and essentially require that Jesus was either deceitful or ignorant.

No amount of arguments from clouds, smoke, fire, beasts, etc. or arguments about how ‘evil’ the actions of YHWH might look, could possibly overthrow these explicit words of Jesus. The question is: will you REALLY trust Jesus and his words or not?

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One/Critical: We MUST start with statements by Jesus explicitly mentioning the God of the Hebrew bible – which will be clearest in His quotations from the OT, but not limited to them. All other passages must be interpreted with these explicit ones in mind.

This CRITICAL category of data includes (in order of priority):

- PRIMARY: Passages where He quotes or refers to explicit YHWH-connected texts from the Hebrew Bible (using terms with LORD or GOD or titles/circumlocutions --e.g. “Most High”, “Power”-- in them.)
- SECONDARY: Any use of the NT term ‘Father’ in relation to any event, agent, or teaching in the Hebrew Bible.
- TERTIARY: Passages using the terms “Lord” (=YHWH), or “God” or circumlocution (e.g. “Most High”, “Power”), without a specific OT verse reference, but which would be most likely understood by the hearers as referring to the most ‘visible’ OT Deity.