

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

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Of 20+ quotes, we saw:

- **ZERO FOR the theory;**
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Of 6 quotes, we saw:

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We also saw numerous parallels between the OT YHWH & the Father/Jesus.

We are looking for ANY passages containing ‘God-words’ in which Jesus suggested that they referred to something negative or someone other than YHWH/Father.

## Did Jesus warn/teach His disciples that YHWH was evil or Satan?

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We have 15 such references in Matthew, which we can group under a couple of categories:

- The Sermon on the Mount (6)
- Various controversies (7)
- Outreach contexts (2)



The Sermon on the Mount is a keystone, inaugural sermon – it sets the tone, theme, and intensity-level of His teaching. Here is one outline:

### THE FIRST DISCOURSE: THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT (5:1–7:29)

#### Introduction (5:1 -5:16)

- The Foundation of Righteous Living: The Beatitudes (5:3–12) 
- The Essence of Discipleship: Salt and Light (5:13–16)

#### The Main Body of the Sermon (5:17–7:12)

- The Relation between the Old and the New Righteousness (5:17–48)
  - Continuity with the Old (5:17–20)
  - The Surpassing of the Old: The Six Antitheses (5:21–48) 
- Outward vs. Inward Righteousness (6:1–18)
- Dependence upon God (6:19–34) 
- Various Teachings and the Golden Rule (7:1–12)

#### Conclusion (7:13–27)

#### The Astonishment of the Crowds (7:28–29)

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The Sermon on the Mount is a critical, inaugural message. (With the large crowd here, **this is the PERFECT opportunity to denounce YHWH publically**, to make it crystal clear that the Father and YHWH are two different beings, to expose/abolish the Law of Moses as satanic, and **to warn the hearers** against accepting the entire Hebrew Bible as trustworthy.) Here are the **6 uses of deity words** by Jesus in it:

|              |  |  |
|--------------|--|--|
| Matthew 5:8  | “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall <b>see* God</b> .”  | Positive, desirable                                  |
| Matthew 5:9  | “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be <b>called sons of God</b> .”   | Positive, honor/royalty                              |
| Matthew 5:33 | “Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, ‘You shall not make false vows, but shall fulfill your vows to the <b>Lord</b> .’”   | Neutral, just statement of fact, composite quotation |
| Matthew 5:34 | “But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by <b>heaven, for it is the throne of God... (earth as footstool and Jerusalem as City of Great King)</b>                                 | Positive, exalted status of God as described in OT   |
| Matthew 6:24 | “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. <b>You cannot serve God and wealth</b> .”         | Positive, must be prioritized                        |
| Matthew 6:30 | “But if <b>God</b> so clothes the grass of the field, which is <i>alive</i> today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, <b>will He not much more clothe you?</b> You of little faith! | Positive, upholds nature, trustworthy supplier       |

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The **7 controversy texts** have Jesus correcting the false beliefs of his adversaries—the religious leaders of the day. In most of these—like in the encounter with Satan earlier—He uses scripture or teachings of scripture to correct, rebuke, challenge or ‘stump’ those alleged experts of the scriptures:

|               |   |  |
|---------------|---|--|
| Matthew 12:4  | how he entered the house of God, and they ate the consecrated bread, which was not lawful for him to eat nor for those with him, but for the priests alone? | Neutral-to-positive; He affirms the tabernacle as the house of God |
| Matthew 15:3  | And He answered and said to them, “Why do you yourselves transgress the commandment of God for the sake of your tradition?”                                 | Positive, supreme moral authority                                  |
| Matthew 15:6  | he is not to honor his father or his mother.’ And <i>by this</i> you invalidated the word of God for the sake of your tradition.                            | Positive, Decalogue as 'word of God' (the God HE cared about)      |
| Matthew 19:6  | “So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”  | Positive, Genesis passage as fact, God's action as authoritative   |
| Matthew 22:21 | They said to Him, “Caesar’s.” Then He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s; and to God the things that are God’s.”             | Positive, Genesis -- image of God, our moral obligation to God     |
| Matthew 22:29 | But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures nor the power of God.  | Positive, resurrection-powerful, scripture a written record        |
| Matthew 23:22 | “And whoever swears by heaven, swears <i>both</i> by the throne of God and by Him who sits upon it.   | Positive, cosmic ruler, and 'auditor'                              |

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Finally, the 2 “**Outreach**” comments are ‘insider’ comments—to His followers:

|               |  |   |
|---------------|--|---|
| Matthew 9:38  | “Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.”                                      | Positive, seeker of the lost, hearer of prayers |
| Matthew 19:26 | And looking at <i>them</i> Jesus said to them, “With people this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” | Positive, supreme power                         |

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**Summary of Data type 3 in Matthew:** 14 positive, 1 neutral, 0 negative

If He is trying to clearly communicate to His audiences and disciples that the deity of the Hebrew bible that they call LORD and LORD GOD is evil or satanic, then He is doing more DAMAGE than GOOD with the 20+ explicit quotations, the 3-6 explicit ‘Father = YHWH’ verses, and 14 of the 15 these general references...

Many of these passages have parallel verses in Mark or Luke, which would ADD to the amount of evidence above. We will not examine those, since the above will demonstrate the point.

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It is worth noting here that since we know from the Sermon on the Mount that the Father can be identified with the “Most High” of the Hebrew Bible (Elyon, a synonym of YHWH), many of the other passages using this title would refer to both the Father and YHWH as one person.

Those non-human spirits (both angelic and demonic) -- as agents who see beyond this human plane -- use that term in describing Jesus’ Father:

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Luke 1:32 | “He will be great and will be called the <b>Son of the Most High</b> ; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David;   |
| Luke 1:35 | The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the <b>Most High</b> will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the <b>Son of God</b> .” |
| Mark 5:7  | and shouting with a loud voice, he said, “What business do we have with each other, Jesus, <b>Son of the Most High God</b> ? I implore You by God, do not torment me!”  |
| Luke 8:28 | Seeing Jesus, he cried out and fell before Him, and said in a loud voice, “What business do we have with each other, Jesus, <b>Son of the Most High God</b> ? I beg You, do not torment me.”                    |

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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.

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We also saw numerous parallels between the OT YHWH & the Father/Jesus.

Of 15 quotes, we saw:

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We did NOT find ANY passages containing ‘God-words’ in which Jesus suggested that they referred to something negative or to someone other than YHWH/Father.