**God Is Government - Tony Evans Teaching - God's Names(3)**

Out of the night that covers me, black as the pit from pole to pole, I thank whatever gods may be for my unconquerable soul. In the foul clutch of circumstance, I have not winced nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeoning of chance, my head is bloody but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears, looms but the horrors of the shade. And yet the menace of the years finds and shall find me unafraid. It matters not how straight the gate, how charged with punishment the scroll, I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul.

You know that as the poem called Invictus, that which is unconquerable. It has become well known and many have been taught in school to recite it. It's fundamentally a poem of self-sufficiency, independence, and my ability to depend on me to become and overcome anything I face in my life.

The two most famous lines are the concluding ones. I am the master of my fate and I am the captain of my soul. While it is popular and while many have recited it, that poem is an affront to the living God.

Because that poem asserts that I am my own God and any other God that may be out there is really inconsequential to my own ability to control my own destiny. And the name I want to talk to you about today flies right in the face of the poem Invictus. Today I want to acquaint you with the name Adonai.

Adonai like Elohim is a plural word. Whenever it's used of God it's used in the plural because God is a plural person. There's only one God but he's made up of plurality.

Three, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit. So Adonai is always in reference to God in the Bible, plural. It's found over 300 times in the Bible and its meaning is very interesting.

The word Adonai means to own or to be the master of. Adonai means to own or to be the master of. The background to the word Adonai was a master who had a slave or slaves.

He owned these slaves but not only did he own them but because he owned them he bore responsibility for them. He was to provide for them, protect them, guide them. So what he owned he took responsibility for.

So when God is referred to as Adonai he is referred to as owner. The psalmist says in Psalm 97 verse 5 that God is Adonai of the whole earth. He not only is Elohim of the whole earth, creator, he is Adonai of the whole earth, owner.

The Bible makes it clear that God owns the cattle on a thousand hills and owns the hills that the cattle graze on. God is owner, Adonai. That is our word.

It is a word of ownership that bears responsibility. So that it meant that the slave had somebody, if he was a good Adonai at the human level, who was their master who would take responsibility for the servant. In fact when you read the Bible, particularly in the New Testament, the apostles call them bond servants or bond slaves of Jesus Christ.

That is owned by another. They were owned by Jesus Christ. Now you'll understand as we go along why this is significant to know God as Adonai.

This concept is even used in a marriage relationship, much to the chagrin of many ladies. In 1 Peter 3, 6 when it says Sarah called Abraham Lord. That's the New Testament kyrgios, which is the Old Testament equivalent of Adon, which is the singular form when it's used of human.

It's not used of the plural. It says Sarah called Abraham Lord or master. Okay, so if you're sitting next to your husband, why don't you say Lord.

Just see what it feel like. A little struggle, isn't it ladies? It's a struggle. I ain't having no man owning me.

I can hear. I see a few necks rolling. I mean, you know, just that, okay.

But let me tell you good news about that phrase, that term, which means master or owner. It meant the one responsible. See, I asked my daughter-in-law, Kanika, who's married to my youngest son, Jonathan.

She's pregnant with their second child. And I said to her, I said, you know, you're going through this, you're pregnant, you know, and she was saying something. She had to check with Jonathan on something.

I said, do you ever get frustrated as a female that you got to say, I need to check with Jonathan? Does that ever, ever bother you as a female? And she said, actually it doesn't. She said, I prefer it. I said, that's interesting.

Why do you prefer it to what she said? Because he's responsible. See, if it's a problem, I throw it on him. If it's a difficulty, I throw it on him.

In other words, he just can't walk around saying I am the Lord. He got to be the Lord. He got to be responsible.

Okay. He's got to own the role, not just use the term. In fact, many of you ladies here are married to the person you married before because he promised to be the one responsible.

He promised to take care of you and provide for you. And he may have been lying on the front end, but at least he had the right talk that he would own the responsibility. And so what that means, men, is you can't expect the term Lord without the accompanying equivalent responsibility that goes with the nomenclature.

Okay. That means to own the responsibility of being responsible to provide, to protect, to guide you. All that comes with that term.

So Sarah was saying to Abraham, that's your problem because you own the term. You've got to own the role. When the Bible talks about God as Adonai, it's talking about the fact that because he owns everything and everybody, he is responsible for that which he owns.

Now with that concept comes staggering implications. If God is the owner, you are not. Okay.

This isn't a joint venture. If God is the owner, you are not. Now, if you claim ownership when you don't own, you out of your lane.

If you act like an owner, anybody have any people in your life who act like they own stuff that belong to you? Okay. Some of you got kids like that. They act like they own stuff that they have had no part in bringing about.

Okay. They own a house they don't pay rent on. They own the premises they don't pay utilities for.

They own food they haven't purchased, but they act and dishonor you acting like an owner when all they are is a user of that which you have provided. God's got a creation problem because he created and owns things that the created want to act like they created and they own. In other words, they don't understand his name is Adonai and his name is owner or master of that which he has created.

So that is the concept. It is a concept of ownership. Now, let's look at a few times.

It's used over 300 times in the Old Testament. So we obviously will have to pick and choose, but let's give you a few samples of the use of the word. The first time the word is used is Genesis 15.

The scenario of Genesis 15 is very interesting. After these things, verse one says, the word of the Lord Yahweh came to Abram in a vision saying, do not fear Abram. I am your shield to you.

Your reward shall be very great. Okay, now God had promised Abraham he was going to make of him a great nation and was going to give him in his old age a child. He had promised that to Abraham as Yahweh, okay, the revealing God.

So God revealed something to Abraham. It's sort of like you coming to church and you're hearing the Bible. You're hearing what God said.

You understood what God said based on his word. So you were encountered Jehovah, the one who reveals himself to you. Okay, so when the revelation came that this was going to occur, Abraham moved his family to the promised land and had been there for 10 years when we get to chapter 15.

He's been there. God told him in chapter 12. We're now in chapter 15.

That's a 10-year gap between chapter 10 and chapter 15 and there's no baby. There's no child. There is this, he's wondering, wait a minute, you said something in chapter 12 and I'm in chapter 15 10 years later and nothing's happening.

So God, Jehovah says it again in verse one. The same thing he said in chapter 12, but this time Abraham speaks in verse two and Abraham said, Oh Lord God, what will you give me since I am childless? But notice the word Lord is different than the word Lord in verse one. The word Lord in verse one is capital L, capital O, capital R, capital D, which is Jehovah.

But the word Lord in verse two is capital L, small o, small r, small d. That's because that's a different word. In verse one, it's Jehovah. In verse two, it's Adonai.

If you have a translation of the Bible, it should distinguish the uppercase letters from the lowercase letters in verse two. Now, if you have a paraphrase, it may not make that distinction because paraphrases aren't designed to be specific like translations are. But if you have a King James version or a new American standard version, if you have a translation, then it would most normally have the higher cases in verse one and except for the first letter, the lower cases because those are two separate Hebrew words.

Jehovah in verse one, God reveals, Adonai, God owns. Okay. He says, Oh Lord God, oh owner God.

Okay. What will you give me? In other words, I heard what you said, but I'm not seeing what you said. Okay.

What you said is not happening. Although I heard it, has that ever happened to you? You heard God's word, but you're not seeing it come true. You heard God's word.

It's been a long time. You've been waiting and nothing's happening. He says, Oh Adonai.

When he says that verse four, behold, the word of Yahweh, capital L, capital O, capital R, capital D, Yahweh, Jehovah came to him saying, now God goes into details about the birth of this son that he's going to have when he's a hundred years old, which isn't normal. It's natural. He goes into detail verse six, then he believed the Lord capitals.

So that's Yahweh. And he reckoned to him as righteousness. Now, verse eight, he says, Oh Lord.

Okay. Capital L, but now small case. Oh R D. Oh Lord.

Oh Adonai God. How may I know that I will possess it? So God said to him, bring me a three-year-old heifer and a three-year-old female goat and a three-year-old ram and a turtle dove and a young pigeon. And he brought them to him.

He cut them in two and he makes this covenant with him. So now God goes into more detail. He goes into more detail, confirming what he had said back in chapter 12.

Now, why, why am I telling you this? Yahweh, the revealing God, the one who talks about himself, who's also Elohim, the creator God. And this is like creating something out of nothing. Cause, uh, Abraham is old and cold, you know, he's a hundred years old.

So we, you talk about creating something out of nothing. That, that, that's what this is. He says, I heard what you said in chapter 12, that you repeated to me in chapter 15, but I need some more information, Adonai.

In other words, I give you right to own me. Cause it's going to take ownership to pull off what you're talking about. Can't no doctor help me.

Super Viagra can't help me. Super Cialis can't help me. None of that can help me.

Adonai, you must own me. My body has got to be yours. When he calls God owner, God gives him more information.

He calls him owner a second time in verse eight, then God even gives him more information. You see, a lot of us are stuck with Jehovah cause we've never graduated to Adonai. See, we want God to do what the word says he can do without giving him the right to own.

God's not going to give you more of Jehovah if you're not willing to confess more Adonai. If you're not willing to give him ownership or master of your life, then the information flow stops, ceases, lessons, drips, rather than being full force with more data on God fulfilling what his word proclaims he can and will do. Our problem today is we've got Christians who want God to get them to heaven who do not want him to own them on earth.

Unless there is an Adonai confession of God, then your Jehovah experience of his self-revelation will be limited. You won't, you'll hear the word and you'll say God's word promised this, but many of God's promises, specifically when they're related to your personal experience, are tied to your Adonai confession of his name. He must have the right to own it if in fact he's going to do something with it because the owner is not about to do something so you can claim ownership of it.

So the word is ownership and every time he confessed as owner, God gave him more information. Look at Exodus chapter 4 verse 10. We talked about Moses last time.

We talked about Moses and Moses has been asked to do something. He sees his contradiction. He's between a rock and a hard place, a bush that will not burn, and he comes and he says in verse 10, then Moses said to Yahweh, capital L, capital O, capital R, capital D, please Lord Adonai, capital L, small case O, small case R, small case D, O Lord, O Yahweh, please Adonai.

Two different words. I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in times past, nor since you have spoken to your servant, for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue. He says, what you asked me to do, I can't do.

I can't do what you asked me to do because what you asked me to do requires a certain articulation, requires a certain college degree, requires a certain notoriety, requires certain natural gifting, and I don't have all that raw material to do what you just said you want me to do, but I call you Lord, you own me. What did God say to him in verse 11? The Lord, Jehovah, said to him, who made man's mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? And he said in verse 13, please Adonai, now send the message by whomever you will. Why? Because you run this show.

In other words, he said, I can't do that. I don't have the natural ability to do that. God said, last time I checked, I make mouths and ears.

Last time I checked, I control speech and folk who can't talk. So if you call me Lord, you'll be amazing how I can make non-talking folk talk. You'll be amazing how I can give you the ability to do what you naturally don't think you can do.

There is nothing like experiencing God doing something you knew was not you because you didn't have the background, the history, the gifting, the edumacation. You didn't have none of that stuff that the world views valuable. All you knew was to call God Adonai.

You knew to recognize his Lordship. I should not be standing up here today. The reason I should not be standing up here today is when I was in elementary school, I could not talk.

I could not talk. I would go, today. I would, I would struggle.

I would stammer. I could not talk. You would have never thought that I would be speaking for a living.

But Adonai has the ability to reach into a situation and flip it, twist it, tweak it, turn it, because he create mouths and noses and eyes and ears and intellect. You have not begun to see what God can do if he ever becomes your Adonai and not just this general creation God who made the heavens and earth and all the general stuff and even the general revelation of Jehovah because now you claim ownership or allowed him to claim ownership of your life. He doesn't just want to be in your life.

He wants to own your life because owner is ultimately responsible. If you are renter, that means somebody else owns it and they are ultimately responsible to pay the rent to, to, I mean, if you don't pay the rent, they can put you out and get somebody else because they own it. See, we want God as everything but owner.

It's called the lordship of Jesus Christ in the New Testament. We want God as everything but owner. In other words, the one that has the final say-so.

So, turn to Judges chapter 6, verse 2, the power of Midian prevailed against Israel because Midian, the sons of Israel, made for themselves the dens which were in the mountains and the caves and the strongholds. Watch this now. It says Midian, that was the pagan people, prevailed against God's people because God's people had begun worshipping idols.

They had begun tinkering with false gods. So, God let the enemy take control of God's people because they were tinkering with false gods. But the Bible says that the people, verse 7, cried out to Jehovah, capital L, capital O, capital R, capital D, on account of Midian.

They got tired of being oppressed. Anybody tired? You tired of stuff hammering you down, beating you down, breaking you down, defeating you, being under the gun, under the rule, under the authority of something that's illegitimate and yet God has let that thing control you, take over you, boss you, ruin you. It says they got tired and cried out to the Lord, to Jehovah, help, do something.

When they did, the angel of the Lord comes to a man named Gideon, verse 12. The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, the Lord, Jehovah, is with you, O valiant warrior. He says, the Lord, Jehovah, is with you.

So, he speaks to this angel and calls him Adon. Notice the lower cast because he's talking to the angel of the Lord. O my Lord, if the Lord, Jehovah, is with me, why then has all this happened to us? Have you ever asked that question? Lord, if you're here, if you're near me, why am I going through this? Why can't I pay my bills? Why am I so unhappy? Why I feel so alone? Why I feel so defeated? If you're supposed to be with me, the great God, I hear about a church.

How come you are not with me? The Lord looked at him and said, verse 14, go in this strength and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian. Have I not sent you? He said to him, O Adonai, capital L, small o-r-d, O Adonai, how shall I deliver Israel? My family is the least in Manasseh and I am the youngest in my father's house. He says, I don't qualify.

He says, I'm from a little town. My family is no big name family and I'm the youngest of all the kids. He says, I don't qualify.

Let me tell you something about God. He can make you qualify. I know you don't have the pedigree and the credentials that say you qualify, but I'm the Lord and I am your owner and I have called you.

I have determined this. Verse 16, Jehovah says, I will be with you and you shall defeat Midian as one man. Oh, I love this because he says, I don't qualify.

I got good news for some folk in here who don't feel like your family background allows you to qualify. Who don't feel like you come from the good stock or you don't come from the right side of town or maybe you were in a situation that was not pleasant to grow up in. If you ever discover Adonai and you say to Jehovah, you are Adonai, I give you ownership.

You will be amazed at what Jehovah can do in the most unlikely places among the most unlikely people. You will be amazed at seeing him overcome the Midianites in your midst. People are trying to hold you down and keep you from progressing and keep you from maximizing God's call on your life or your spiritual potential or the Midianites of various strongholds that are trying to keep you oppressed or keep you addicted or keep you defeated.

God says, if I am your Adonai, you'll see me work as your Jehovah. You'll see me reveal stuff. What did he reveal to him? He revealed to him the weirdest plan that you would have ever thought.

Gideon is getting ready to go. You'll see this in chapter seven. Gideon is getting ready to go out and fight the Midianites.

So he gathers 32,000 men and says, okay, let's go out and defeat them. God comes up and said, that's too many folk. I can't use all them people because you know, you can have a lot of people and they'd be the wrong folk you're hanging out with.

So he gathered, he said that 32,000, I can't use them. He whittles it down to 20,000. He's now at 20,000.

He said, Gideon says, okay, God, I'm ready to go fight. He said, that's too many folk. You got too many people.

You got too many people. Now I can't use all those people. He says, now you go down and have them all drink out of the water.

You go have them drink out of the water. And everybody who holds his head up when he drinks, you keep them. The ones who put their heads down when they drink, I can't use them.

Cause see, if they put their heads down, that means their eyes aren't focused on the situation. They just focus on getting their needs met. But I have, I need some folks who, why they getting their needs met are focused on the task at hand.

Their eyes are open even while they're satisfying themselves. 20,000 got whittled down to 300, the Bible says. They got down to think, you want me to go fight a whole army with 300 people? Not quite Gideon.

I want you to fight the whole army with 300 people and me. If you had 20,000 people, but you didn't have me, you're still going to lose. But if you got 300 of the right folk with me, I will show you what Jehovah looks like when he becomes Adonai in your situation.

See, the problem is a lot of us have Jehovah who've not yet met Adonai. He's not owning anything yet. He's just somebody we come and hear the Bible from on Sunday.

We come and hear the word from. So we'll say, guess what Jehovah said today in church? And we never see Adonai at work. Until Jehovah and Elohim become Adonai, you won't know how big God is.

You won't have to turn there, but let me give you another reference. It's Isaiah chapter six, verse one. It says, in the year that King Uzziah died, Isaiah saw Adonai.

See, and I know Isaiah saw the Lord, that's what we say. But it says Isaiah saw Adonai. Now, why do you need to know in the year that King Uzziah died that Isaiah saw Adonai? Because it looked like the human king was the king, but the human king died.

The thing that you normally look to, the man in charge, he died. But it wasn't until the human king died that he saw who really owned stuff. Adonai was still seated on the throne running the show.

You see, sometimes we won't see Adonai until God let something die in our situation. He kills something we were looking at. He kills something we were depending on.

He lets that job go away because we were backing our whole financial well-being on that employment. He lets that person be removed from our lives because we thought we couldn't make it without that person still being in our lives. He let something go away, get rid of, get shattered, so we could discover who really is in charge here, who really owns here.

We can discover what really, because see, Isaiah will keep us from seeing our own sin. That's why God let Isaiah see his own sin with his tongue when he saw God as owner. Because a lot of us can't see God because we got other desires blocking the view.

Other human things we're looking at. And God, see, let me tell you about this owner. He'll take as long as it takes for his renters to get the point.

Because you are a renter. I don't know if you know that. And sometimes I forget it too.

We're all prone to forget it. But we are renters. How do I know we're renters? Because everything we have for living is borrowed.

Nothing you have is not borrowed. The clothes that you're wearing was borrowed from some animal. Did you know that? The fruit or the vegetables you eat was borrowed from a seed that the vegetable or fruit provided.

Okay. It's all provided. The meat that you eat, you're borrowing that.

You ain't making any animals. In fact, the air that you breathe is on loan. It's all borrowed.

We walking around here talking about we owners. It's mine. It's mine.

It's mine. It's mine. It's yours on loan.

Yours on loan. But when borrowers start acting like owners, you insult owners. You insult owners.

I don't know what that means. You don't own. Bible says you came into this world naked.

You're going to leave in this world naked because you own nothing. Everything is on loan. You are a borrower.

So God expects you to recognize him as Adonai. And that's why we're not seeing the presence of God and the power of God because we want people who want to use God's name, but he can't own the things he made. And that includes you because the Bible says if you're a Christian, even your body is not your own.

You've been bought with a price. He wants to own your body. He says spirit and soul and body.

He wants to own the whole package. I love this passage. David was said to be a man after God's own heart.

You can get a feel for this in 2nd Samuel chapter 7. Because the 2nd Samuel chapter 7, he keeps saying Adonai, Adonai, Adonai, Adonai, Adonai. Beginning with verse 18. Look at what David says.

Then David, the king went in and sat before the Lord Jehovah. And he said, who am I? Oh, Adonai God. And what is my house that you have brought me this far? See, he understands he's a borrower.

You brought me this far. And yet this was insignificant in your sight. It wasn't a big deal to you.

Oh, Adonai God, for you have spoken also of the house of your servant concerning his distant future. You got my future in your hands. And this is the custom of man.

Oh, Adonai God. Again, what more can David say to you? For you know your servant. Oh, Adonai God, for the sake of your word and according to your own heart, you have done all this greatness to let your servant know.

For this reason, you are great. Oh, Adonai God, for there is none like you. And there is no God beside you.

According to all we have heard with our ears. No wonder David saw so much. Because he kept God in his eyes as Adonai.

Adonai, the one who owns. And the owner calls the shots. We want God.

We don't want him own a God. And unless he owns you, you will be limited in how much of him you experience. You may hear a lot about him, Jehovah, in the word.

But your experience of him is tied to your recognition that Jehovah and Elohim must be your Adonai. And he's called Adonai in the circumstances of life, when people's lives have gotten to the point where they no longer want to own themselves. And God will wait until you give up ownership.

As long as you insist on owning you, here's what I'm saying. Adonai is the password for the unveiling of Jehovah. You need a password to get in? You want to get into more of Jehovah expressing, revealing, and manifesting himself? Then he must be your Adonai.

Jesus put it this way, because Jesus is called the Adonai of the New Testament through the revelation of God. He says, how do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not what I say? He said, you talk in that talk, but I don't own you. Because if I owned you, then you would find out what the owner wants.

And if you don't find out what the owner wants, that's because you don't believe I own you. So you take care of yourself. You take care of yourself.

And that's why so many people look to God to bail them out. Because they're their own Adonais. They're their own Adonais.

They want to run their own lives. And men, we want to run our lives independently of God. And women, we want to run our lives independently of God.

And then we want to run our homes independently of God. We want to run our finances independently of God. We want to run our careers independently of God.

But then we go to church and we say, oh, Lord, how come God's not working for me? Well, I have a question. Is he Adonai for you? Is he owner or is he just God in general? Unless and until we address the lordship issue, that is the ownership issue, the master issue, then God's revelation of himself, Jehovah, will be limited. It will be limited.

You will not see him take you to the deeper level. He will only take people there who he owns. Until we solve the lordship issue, God can do more with fewer who recognize his lordship than with many who only recognize his creatorship.

Everybody recognize who believes in God, recognize his creatorship, but not a whole lot his lordship. In other words, there's only one response you give to Adonai, and that is surrender. It is surrender of your will to his will, your way to his way, yourself to himself.

It's like a cowboy breaking a horse, a wild stallion. He buys his wild stallion. So that's his stallion.

The only problem is that stallion doesn't want anybody on its back. A stallion doesn't want anybody on its back. So the horse must be broken.

So the cowboy will do this and get up and get on the horse's back. Now the horse is wild. It needs to be tamed and brought under the owner's control.

But the horse doesn't want anybody telling it what to do. So the horse, like a rebellious teenager, bucks. Get off of me.

Get off my back. Leave me alone. Stop it.

And if you don't get off, I'm gonna throw you off. And so it bucks and bucks and bucks till it throws the cowboy off. You know what the cowboy does? Get right back on it.

The horse, defiant, rebellious, get off of me, get off of me. And it bucks and bucks till it throws the cowboy off. And the cowboy gonna ride it and ride it and ride it till the horse get tired.

And when the horse gets tired, it submits to his new owner. So the new owner can go. Giddy up.

Whoa. The horse will soon discover that the cowboy knows what he's doing. He knows what he's doing.

And that wild horse that's now tamed becomes useful. Many of us can't hear a word from God because every time God wants to get on our back, we want to buck him off. I run my own life.

I do the whole thing. I control my own destiny. And we buck God off, God goes.

And he will ride you and ride you and ride you and ride you and ride you till he breaks you. Because he claims ownership. Not merely this general God thing.

He is Adonai. In the New Testament, he's Kyrios. He is Lord.

That's why Paul said, my life is not my own. Some people accept Jesus as Savior and as Lord at the same time. Some people do it simultaneously.

They don't have this gap. So they don't have a life that's messed up over years. Okay.

Other people do it at some later date. That's why parents, we want our children to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. But then we want the children to make the Savior who they accepted the Lord.

And you want to close the time gap because that will affect not only their decisions, it affects God's work in their life. And the less the gap, the less the mess. It's an Adonai issue.

In fact, let me give you a secret. Here's one of the most often quoted verses in evangelism in the New Testament. And that's Romans 10, 9. Okay.

If you will confess with your mouth, Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. The next verse says, for with the heart man believes unto righteousness. With the heart man gets saved, gets converted.

But then he says, but with the mouth confession, Christ is Lord. He says, with the mouth confession, you are delivered. The word saved means to be delivered.

Now, we quote most of those verses to tell somebody who's not a Christian how to become a Christian. But that's really not why those verses were written. Those verses were written to people who were already Christians, but who were not delivered.

They were saved in the sense that they were on their way to heaven, but they were undelivered on earth. And Paul writes those Christians to say, if you will confess with your mouth the lordship of Jesus Christ, and believe in your heart that He's alive to do something about your situation, God has raised Him from the dead, you will be delivered. For with the heart, you believe unto conversion, but with the mouth confession, you believe unto deliverance.

And the reason why more people aren't delivered is because they have believed unto salvation, but not confessed unto lordship. And until the lordship issue is settled, the manifestation of God, Jehovah, and Elohim will be limited or negated. Adonai, or Kyrios in the New Testament, it is the lordship of Jesus Christ.

The Bible says in Psalm 110 verse 11, that God hath made Jesus Lord. He is the one now to whom we should obligate ourselves. First Corinthians chapter 7, verse 21 and 22, I love this verse.

It says that the slave to Christ becomes the Lord's free man. Watch this now. The slave to Christ becomes the Lord's free man.

In other words, the more you become a slave to Jesus, the freer you become as a person. The less you are a slave to Jesus, the more bound you become as a person. It is your slavery to the owner that frees you up as a servant.

It is your independence from the owner that causes you to be in. We would tell our children this when they don't listen to us as parents, that you're going to go in the wrong direction. We want them to listen to us because we know stuff they don't know.

In their rebellion, we say, I told you so, or wish we could tell them, I told you so because we had more information than they had. Guess what? Hate to tell you this, but God's got more information than you have. When Paul got saved, he was one of the ones that got saved and made Jesus Lord all at the same time.

He got saved. God said, Acts 9, Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? And Paul looked up and said, Lord, what will you have me to do? He was on the Lordship thing from Jump Street. The Bible made a murderer, the number one writer of scripture in the New Testament.

Paul wrote 13 books of the New Testament, more than anybody else. And he was the worst guy. He was the murderer.

That shows you what God can do to people who make him Lord, to people who allow ownership. You see, if Bill Gates told you, if you let me own you, I'm going to take care of you. Because I know what he has.

Because I know what he has, in the financial arena. He says, if you let me own you financially, I will take care of you. And if he was being honest, and if he was trustworthy, Bill Gates, own me.

Own me, because I know there's nothing I can purchase he can't afford. See, my knowledge of him would make me trust owning that arena of my life to him, because I know what he has. See, if you don't understand who Elohim is, then you won't know how powerful he is.

If you don't understand Jehovah, you don't know his person. When you understand both of those, you don't mind Adonai, because you know what God has. Now, let me tell you a secret.

Whenever God wants to claim ownership, he holds something back. In the garden, he says, from every tree of the garden you may freely eat, except that tree in the middle. That one don't mess with.

I'm gonna hold that back just to remind you I own. Freedom, I want you to be free. And there's a whole lot in this garden to be free up, but I'm holding that tree back, because I want to know you take seriously my ownership.

Okay? In the financial arena, the reason why God asked for the tithe is ownership. The reason why all my adult life, I have never failed the tithe, is because I want God to own me in that arena. And because I want ownership in that arena, I affirm his ownership through what I do.

You can do that in relationships. You can do that in anything. You might, see, you just can't say, Lord, Lord, Lord, Lord, like it's magic word.

It requires an action that defines ownership in whatever arena it happens to be in. There must be ownership. You must declare him as Adonai.

So in all of those cases that I read, he told those people to do something. And the things he told them to do wasn't very comfortable. Moses wasn't comfortable.

Abraham wasn't comfortable. Joshua wasn't comfortable. Nobody was comfortable.

But God wants to know, do I own you? If I own you, do what I say and believe that I'm Elohim and Jehovah. But most people don't believe that. They don't believe he's Elohim and Jehovah, so they don't make him Adonai.

But Adonai is the password to Jehovah. So then, what must you do? What should be your response to today's message? Because, see, here's what you have to understand. When you don't surrender to Christ, you do surrender to chaos.

When you don't surrender to Christ, you do surrender to chaos. See, a lot of us have surrendered to chaos not knowing we made chaos the owner because we didn't surrender to Christ. When you don't surrender, that's why we're having so many problems in our lives, so many problems in our families, so many problems in our finances, so many problems in every area of our life.

We have not surrendered to Christ. And so we're trying to, you know what most of us spend our lives doing? Trying to manage chaos. You know, my life is a mess, so let me manage it the best way I can.

So we try to manage chaos. God says, you won't have to manage chaos if I could own you. If I can tell men what it means to be a man, what it means to be a husband, what it means to be a father because I own you.

Tell women what it means to be a mother, what it means to be a wife, what it means to be a homemaker because I own you. Tell you how to relate to your finances, how to relate to your… I own you! I own you! Tell you what to do with your body, what you can't do with your body because I own you. So if you take a position? No, you don't own me.

I own me because I'm the man. I'm captain of my own ship. I master my own fate.

I am the man. Good. Let's see you, man.

Let's see you on you. You know on the court TV shows, Judge Judy, when television have so many of them today, my understanding is, here's the rule. The rule is, if I'm gonna try your case, it must be understood that my decision is a final.

I'm not gonna hear your case unless you agree that what I decide is what we're gonna go with. If you going, if you coming in to debate whether you're gonna agree with my decision, I'm not gonna hear your case. You gotta sign and agree that the decision, you must do this in advance, that I make is final or he won't hear your case.

See a lot of us go to God to see if we like how he's gonna rule. And God said that's not how this works. It must be decided in advance that I'm Adonai, I make the decision, now we will hear the conversation.

And I listen to what you got to say. I hear what you have, how you feel. I won't disregard your point, but then I'm gonna make the final decision and you have to believe I'm good, I'm fair, I'm just, and I'm gonna do the right thing in your situation, even if it's not the preferred thing.

Why? Because I'm Adonai. I make the final decision. So look, there's only one decision that has to be made, and that is you must deed your life over.

You know what a deed is? A deed is merely a legal document transferring ownership. You deed your car over to somebody, you deed your house over to somebody. You know what that is? It's a transfer of ownership.

Well what we need to do is have a life deed and we need to say to Jesus Christ, you're now Adonai Kyrios of my life. I deed my life over to you. I deed my emotions over to you.

I deed my finances over to you. I deed my family over to you. I deed my material possessions over to you.

I deed my being over to you. And I just have to believe that because you're Elohim and you can make stuff not nothing, because you're Jehovah and you want to manifest yourself to me, I'm gonna make you Adonai so I can have both. And I'm gonna deed my life over to you because I'm tired of the chaos and I'm tired of the drama, so I'm gonna deed it over.