



World Christian Fellowship

www.wcflondon.com
wcflondon@gmail.com

John 20:17-18

God relating to Man changed Forever!

John 20:17-18, *Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'"*

¹⁸*Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.*

Servant of the Lord in the Old Testament

How did Lord our God relate with man in the Old Testament?

The highest title of tribute you could give a person in the Old Testament was to call him "the servant of God.

The Hebrew word for servant, **eber**, denotes "God given authority as the accredited messengers of the Lord." The servant of the LORD was one who was chosen by Yahweh. The origin implies the position of a slave.

In the Old Testament in the King James, you will find the word "slave" once. But the Hebrew word appears 800 times in the noun, and nearly 300 in the verb. There is a word in the Old Testament for "slave" that appears eleven hundred times, but in your English Bible it's translated "slave" once.

In the New Testament, you will find the Greek word '**Doulos**' for "slave" about 150 times in all its forms.

Abraham is the "servant" of the Lord.

Psalms 105:42, *For He remembered His holy promise, And Abraham His servant.*

Moses is called "the servant of the LORD," and "Moses My servant" more often than anyone else in the Old Testament.

Exodus 14:31, *Thus Israel saw the great work which the Lord had done in Egypt; so the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and His servant Moses.*

(Numbers 12:7; Deuteronomy 34:5; Joshua 1:1, 15; 8:21, 23; 18:7; 1 Chronicles 6:49; 2 Chronicles 1:3; 24:6; Nehemiah 1:7; 10:29).

"Moses the servant of Yahweh" is almost the official title of Moses.

Deuteronomy 34:5, *So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord.*

Numbers 12:7-8, *Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house. ⁸I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?"*

The author of Hebrews describes Moses as a servant in God's house.

Hebrews 3:5, *And Moses indeed was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken afterward,*

The whole chapter shows that how Moses was a faithful servant in the house whereas Jesus being a Son in the House.

Joshua, Moses "servant," who led Israel into the Promised Land was also called "the servant of the LORD" at the end of his life.

Joshua 24:29, *Now it came to pass after these things that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died, being one hundred and ten years old.*

Judges 2:8, *Now Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died when he was one hundred and ten years old.*

Caleb

Numbers 14:24, *But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.*

King David called as the servant of the Lord.

2 Samuel 7:5-8, *“Go and tell My servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord: “Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? ⁶ For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. ⁷ Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, ‘Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?’ ” ’ ⁸ Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, ‘Thus says the Lord of hosts: “I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel.*

(1 Kings 8:66; 11:36; 2 Kings 19:34; 2 Chronicles 17:4).

Even though David was after God’s own heart, yet he was known as servant of God.

Acts 13:22, *And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, ‘I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.’*

Elijah

2 Kings 10:10, *Know now that nothing shall fall to the earth of the word of the Lord which the Lord spoke concerning the house of Ahab; for the Lord has done what He spoke by His servant Elijah.”*

The LORD speaks of His prophets.

Jeremiah 7:25, *Since the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt until this day, I have even sent to you all My servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.*

2 Kings 21:10, *And the Lord spoke by His servants the prophets, saying,*

Amos 3:7, *Surely the Lord God does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.*

Isaiah is called the servant of the Lord.

Isaiah 20:3; *Then the Lord said, “Just as My servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot three years for a sign and a wonder against Egypt and Ethiopia,*

Isaiah 49:5, *“And now the Lord says, Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, To bring Jacob back to Him, So that Israel is gathered to Him (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, And My God shall be My strength),,*

Job

Job 1:8, *Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"*

Job 42:7, *And so it was, after the Lord had spoken these words to Job, that the Lord said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."*

Even Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon is called "My servant".

Jeremiah 25:9, *behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the Lord, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants, and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations.*

Jeremiah 27:6, *And now I have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant; and the beasts of the field I have also given him to serve him.*

The old Babylonian king thought he was king of the hill, but in reality, he was only an instrument in the hands of God.

The nation of Israel was even called the servant of the Lord.

Isaiah 41:8, *“But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, The descendants of Abraham My friend.*

It is from this servant nation that God sent His Suffering Servant. God called out a people for Himself so that He could provide a redeemer for the world.

Only one person in the whole of Old Testament called as friend of God.

Abraham the Friend:

Isaiah 41:8, *“But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, The descendants of Abraham My friend.*

2 Chronicles 20:7, *Are You not our God, who drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever?*

How did Lord Jesus Christ relate with man in the New Testament?

Relationship between Jesus and His disciples.

Peter:

Matthew 4:19, *Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”*

Matthew:

Luke 5:27-28, *After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office. And He said to him, "Follow Me."²⁸ So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.*

How many times Jesus called the disciples to follow Him?

Gospel of Matthew and John records 7 Times.

Gospel of Mark and Luke records 4 Times

Condition to Follow:

Luke 9:23, *Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.*

Jesus calls them as Apostles.

Luke 6:13, *And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:*

"Apostle" means messenger, he who is sent. An apostle is sent to deliver or spread those teachings to others.

John 15 Jesus gives another title: **Friends**

John 15:15, *No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.*

John 15:20, *Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.*

Relationship between Lord and Jesus Christ:

Jesus always calls God as His Father.

Throughout Jewish national history none dare to call God as Father!

John 16:28, *I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father."*

John 6:38, *For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.*

John 14:31, *But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.*

John 5:19, *Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.*

John 10:30, *I and My Father are one."*

John 14:28, *You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming back to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I.*

John 15:10, *If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love.*

Hostility because Jesus called God as His Father.

John 5:17-18, *But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."¹⁸ Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.*

John 10:31-33, *Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him.³² Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"³³ The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."*

Jesus the Only Son.

John 3:16, *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

At the Cross the relationship between God and Jesus broken.

Jesus who was always addressing God as Father for the very first time addresses HIM as God!

Matthew 27:46, *And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"*

Matthew 27:51, *Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split,*

Jesus resurrection changes His position with God.

John 20:17, *Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'*"

go to My brethren?

How did they become brothers?

My Father and your Father

Now we have One Father!

Jesus is the first born.

Colossians 1:15-18, *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.*

Revelation 1:5, *and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood,*

Hebrews 12:23, *to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect,*

Romans 8:29, *For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.*

Hebrews 2:11, *For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren,*

Hebrews 1:6, *But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him."*

Jesus is the firstborn over all creation. He is heir of all that he has made, and all things find their meaning and proper end in him. He is the sovereign we worship and the one to whose side we have been called.

and to My God and your God.’ ”

Who raised Jesus from the Dead?

God the Father.

Acts 2:32, *This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.*

Romans 6:4, *Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

Galatians 1:1, *Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father who raised Him from the dead),*

Romans 10:9-13, *that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between*

Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. ¹³ For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

How Jesus was raised by God?

By the Power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:11, *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

1 Peter 3:18, *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,*

So now we can call God the Father!

Romans 8:15-17, *For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*

A servant would never call their master Daddy. Daddy is a term of endearment. In the Middle East, Abba is what a child calls their father to this very day.

“Abba” brings a sense of intimacy with God. It is an intimacy that says more about the new covenant than it does about how much familiarity with which we can address God. Because our direct access to the Father is through Jesus Christ.

Why does Jesus say that My God and your God?

Ephesians 1:3, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*

God is a Trinity.

This means that the single being who is God is expressed in three distinct, simultaneous persons:

- ✓ The Father,
- ✓ The Son, and
- ✓ The Holy Spirit.

Jesus is the second person of the Trinity, the Word, who became flesh and dwelt among us.

John 1:1, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

John 1:14, *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Therefore, Jesus has two distinct natures.

He is both God and man.

As a man, it was necessary that he be born of a woman and therefore born under the Law.

Galatians 4:4, *But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,*

Since he was under the Law, he was obligated to love God and worship Him.

Deuteronomy 6:5, *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.*

Deuteronomy 6:13, *You shall fear the Lord your God and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name.*

So, Jesus had to obey the Law, and he had to worship God the Father.

Therefore, we see that Jesus was a man who had to fulfill the law, which included worshipping God.

But because Jesus is also the Son then He is the Son by relation to the Father.

Romans 15:6, *that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Peter 1:3, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*

So now Jesus is our elder brother.

WE both have the same,

- ✓ Father and
- ✓ God.

Mary Magdalene commended by Jesus to Proclaim.

John 20:18, *Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.*

Earthly Tabernacle:

Hebrews 9:2-5, *For a tabernacle was prepared: the first part, in which was the lampstand, the table, and the showbread, which is called the sanctuary;³ and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All,⁴ which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant;⁵ and above it were the cherubim of glory*

overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

Outer court,
Holy place,
Most Holy place.

God's presence dwelt in the Most Holy Place or Holy of Holies.

Hebrews 9:6-7, *Now when these things had been thus prepared, the priests always went into the first part of the tabernacle, performing the services. ⁷But into the second part the high priest went alone once a year, not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the people's sins committed in ignorance;*

Any ordinary person can't enter into the holy place not even near the Most Holy place where God's presence was there.

All the Old testament saints cry was that will they not be in the presence of God?

Psalms 42:1-2, *As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God. ²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?*

Psalms 84:1-2, *How lovely is Your tabernacle, O Lord of hosts!
2 My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the Lord; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.*

Psalms 84:10, *For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.*

Now Jesus gives a new mandate to Mary Magdalene to inform the disciples the new arrangement to approach God.

They don't have dread to come to the presence of God.

They can come to Him anytime

They can come to Him anywhere.

They can call on Him with new relationship.

God is not looking for servants but Sons and Daughters.