

A Quick Guide to God the Father's OT Identity

Exodus chapter 3 relates the OT LORD God speaking to Moses from the Burning Bush. Together with Acts 3:13 it is shown that the NT God the Father was the OT LORD God who spoke to Moses from the Burning Bush. The underlined italicised phrase *God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob* provides a NT-OT link for identifying the NT God the Father with the OT LORD God who spoke to Moses from the Burning Bush.

- Act 3.13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus;...
- Exod 3.6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.
- Exod 3.13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?
- .14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.
- .15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob hath sent me unto you ...

Peter reveals through Acts 3:13 that the OT God of their fathers is the OT *God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob* and adds this God is also the Father of Jesus. Exodus 3:6 reveals that the God who spoke to Moses from the Burning Bush is the *God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob*. The NT-OT link "*God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob*" shared between Acts 3:13 and Exodus 3:6 allows us to conclude that *God the Father* was the *God in the Burning Bush* who spoke to Moses. Exodus 3:13-15 reveal that this God also identifies Himself as '*I AM*' and as the OT LORD God and therefore the following extended OT identity applies to the NT God the Father:-

God the Father = God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob = God in the Burning Bush = I AM = LORD GOD of the OT

The Lord Jesus also identified His Father being the God who spoke to Moses from the Burning Bush.

- Mark 12.26 And as touching the dead, that they rise: have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?
- .27 He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living: ye therefore do greatly err.

Note that Jesus said in verse 27, "*He is not the God of the dead...*". Had Jesus been the God in the Burning Bush, He would have said, "*I am not the God of the dead...*". Therefore Jesus and Peter both reveal that God the Father had spoken to Moses from the Burning Bush.

Despite Jesus' testimony endorsing Peter's teaching most members of the former Worldwide Church of God (WCG) will object to the above extended identity of God the Father. Why? Because they prefer human church tradition over an unwelcome and troubling Bible Truth – little has changed since Jesus' earthly ministry!

The doctrine that Jesus is "I AM" is based especially on Jesus saying in John 8:58, "...*Before Abraham was, I am*". It is then alleged – even by mainstream Christendom! – to provide a NT-OT "I am" link from John 8:58 to Exodus 3:14 for identifying Jesus being the God who spoke to Moses from the Burning Bush.

To see this is an invalid NT-OT link note that in Exod 3:14 the God in the Burning Bush *named* Himself "I AM" but that Jesus *did not name* Himself "I am" in John 8:58 but instead declared having existed even prior to Abraham. Therefore the "I am" of John 8:58 has an entirely different usage from the "I AM" of Exod 3:14 and the two may not be logically linked to identify Jesus with the God in the Burning Bush. Besides the expression "I am" occurs many times in the NT and is not a unique NT-OT link for reliably identifying Jesus with the God in the Burning Bush.

The invalid NT-OT "I AM" link led to the false WCG tradition that Jesus was the God speaking to Moses from the Burning Bush but which tradition, as shown above, contradicts the teaching of both Jesus and Peter.

Let us rather consider a rock solid NT-OT link for identifying the God in the Burning Bush. That is the link *God of Abraham, of Isaac and of Jacob* from Acts 3:13 to Exod 3:6. As shown above, this identifies God the Father as the God in the Burning Bush. There can be no doubting this link and so we must reject the Mainstream and former WCG tradition that Jesus is "I am" who spoke to Moses from the Burning Bush.

My paper *God the Father is the Creator and Husband of Israel!* (Ref. paper P2 at my Home Page) shows God the Father is also the Creator, God of Eden, God of Genesis, God of Exodus, Husband of Israel and was His own OT Word to the patriarchs and prophets (Heb 1:1). Incidentally from Heb 1:1-2 we see that Jesus became the Word of God only in NT times!

Most ex-WCG'ers will question the claims of the previous paragraph because several NT scriptures appear to deny these. Paper P2 also shows that NT scriptures which allegedly support that Jesus was the Creator and God of the OT, were either falsified in Greek manuscripts, or mistranslated into English or doctrinally misinterpreted through assuming Jesus is the Creator and God of the OT. For example, the KJV through concluding Ephesians 3:9 with the phrase, "*by Jesus Christ*", suggests Jesus was the Creator but it is now recognized that this phrase was not in Paul's original manuscript and therefore in Ephesians 3:9 Paul too declared that God the Father was the Creator.

We will be unable to understand the Bible correctly unless we recognize that God the Father is the Creator, God of Eden, God of Exodus (*I AM*), Husband of Israel and was His own Word to the OT patriarchs and to the OT prophets (Heb 1:1).

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE THAT GOD THE FATHER WAS THE CREATOR AND GOD OF THE OT

Romans 5:10 declares that through Jesus' death we can stop being alienated from and become reconciled to God (the Father). Now if man became alienated from Jesus in Eden, as would be the case had Jesus been the Creator, then how can Jesus be the reconciler to Himself? Clearly man became alienated from God the Father in Eden.

Also the Creator LORD God of Eden said to the Serpent, "...and thou shalt bruise his (i.e. Jesus') heel" (Gen 3:15). Had Jesus been the Creator God of Eden, then surely He would have said, "...and thou shalt bruise my heel". Therefore in Eden God the Father and not Jesus, spoke to the Serpent.

Acts 4:24a with 27b declares that the Creator of all things has a holy child. Therefore God the Father and not Jesus was the Creator! Mainstream falsifiers missed this passage because the intervening verses 25-26 obscure it. God the Father's Word reveals such clues to those who search His Word diligently and ignore the doctrines of men.

Peter quotes in Acts 3:22-23 from Deuteronomy 18:15-19 to explain that the LORD God who spoke to Moses said He will send a Prophet and that this Prophet was Jesus (Acts 3:20). Therefore again the *LORD God* speaking to Moses must have been *God the Father* because Jesus said repeatedly that His Father had sent Him (John 5:30).

A FREQUENT OBJECTION ANSWERED

In John 5:37 Jesus said about His Father, "...*Ye have neither heard his voice at any time nor seen his shape*" and this is often cited to reject that God the Father spoke to Moses. Yet at Jesus' baptism and which preceded John 5:37, God the Father's voice was heard calling from Heaven, "*This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased*" (Mat 3:17). This is explained in my paper *How God the Father was Seen and Heard* (Ref. paper P10 at my Home Page). There is a difference between hearing a voice and listening to what the voice says: starting with Eve and Adam in Eden, mankind has failed to listen to God the Father!

A LAWFUL OR AN UNLAWFUL BEGETTING?

Had Jesus been God of Exodus who married Israel at Mt Sinai, then God the Father's begetting His Son Jesus through His Son's Wife Israel (Mary) would have been unlawful". Yet Paul wrote in Galatians 4:4, "*God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law*". Because God the Father married Israel at Mt Sinai He begot His Son Jesus lawfully; thus again showing the importance of God the Father being the God of Exodus.

GOD THE FATHER ALONE REMAINS AS A SELF-EXISTENT GOD!

In Exodus 3:14 God the Father named Himself *I AM*, which being derived from the Hebrew verb 'to be', means the '*Self-Existent One*' or '*The Eternal*'. To this is related the Hebrew 4-letter form (Tetragrammaton) JHWH (or YHWH), and which is mostly translated into English as the all-capital form LORD (Strong #3068) and sometimes as the all-capital form GOD (#3069) – for examples see Genesis 15:1-2.

When Jesus agreed to become and die as man's atoning Passover Lamb, He surrendered forever His former Self-existence and therefore now only God the Father remains as a Self-existent God. So only to God the Father and not to Jesus apply the names: '*The Eternal*', '*The Self-existent One*', '*I AM*', the Tetragrammaton JHWH (YHWH) and the corresponding English all-capital forms LORD and GOD. Fuller explanations are given in my papers *God the Father is the Creator and Husband of Israel!* and *The Bible Shows Jesus Was A Self-Existent God* (Ref. papers P2 and P5 at my Home Page).

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