

## *The Israel of God Bible Study Class*

2515 E. 75<sup>th</sup> Street

Chicago, IL 60649

(773) 374-6413 or (800) 96-BIBLE

### **"MY LORD AND MY GOD"**

This statement was made by one of Jesus disciples named Thomas. The power of this statement blows by the average Christian like a jumbo jet.

It was made after Jesus had been raised from the grave after his death on the cross. (John 20:19-28) (v.19) "Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, peace be unto you. (v.20) And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. (v.24) But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Did-y-mus, was not with them when Jesus came. (v.25) The other disciples therefore said unto him, we have seen the Lord. But he saith unto them, except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and trust my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now that's a reasonable statement Thomas made, saying he'll believe it when he sees it. (v.26) "And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, peace be unto you. (v.27) Then saith he to Thomas, reach hither thy finger and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing." Then Thomas made one of the most over looked statements in the bible, when he said unto Jesus (v.28) **"MY LORD AND MY GOD"**. Jesus after his resurrection from the dead was returning to his former glory, God. (John 17:5) "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was." Yes, with thee before the world was. That's why after Jesus was raised from the dead he made this statement. (Mat. 28:18) And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." It's hard for some people to understand that Jesus came through the Virgin Mary in the flesh, but he has always existed as a spirit being.

Let's take a closer look to try and better explain this, let's start in Genesis, because that's where the one who became known as Jesus can be seen first. (Gen. 1: 1) It said that; "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." But (John 1: 1-3,-10, 14) states" in the beginning was the **Word** and the Word was with God and the **Word was God**. (v.2) The same was in the beginning with God. (v. 3) All things were made by him; (the Word) and without him was not any thing made that was made. (v.10) He was in the world and the world was made by him. We all know that one of Jesus many names is the Word of God. (Rev. 19:13) So who created the world, was it God? Was it the Word (Jesus)? Yes! They are one in the same (v.14) And the Word was made 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. Yes the **WORD** that was in the beginning with God, was God and was made flesh and dwelt among man. That's why Jesus said give me the glory I HAD WITH **THEE BEFORE THE WORLD WAS**, that was in the beginning. Let's move on. (Ex. 3:13-14) 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 unto me, what is his

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name? What shall I say unto them? 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. Now Moses asked a direct question and God gave him a direct answer that's very clear. Let's take a look at; (John 8:56-59) When Jesus was speaking to some of the Jews saying (v.56) Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him (Jesus) thou are not yet fifty years old and hast thou seen Abraham. Now listen closely how Jesus answered. Jesus said unto them verily, verily I say unto you, before Abraham was I am. I am, not I will be, or I was, but I am. That's forever present, the one who became known as Jesus was always around, he is the member of the Godhead that became known as the Son. In the beginning there was no Father or Son just God, or Godhead or God family, God is translated from the Hebrew word Elohim, a uniplural word. Like the word man, it covers the species male and female. (Gen. 1:27) So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; MALE AND FEMALE CREATED HE THEM.

So we are all members of the man family, the woman (whom Adam named) is the female species of the man family, let's continue. (John 1:18) No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him. Those are absolutes "No MAN" and AT ANY TIME" (Ex. 24:9-11) then went Moses, and Aaron, Na-dab, and A-bi'hu, and seventy of the elders of Israel. (v.10) And they saw the GOD OF ISRAEL; and there was under his feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and as it were the body of heaven in his clearness. (v.11) And upon the nobles of the children of Israel he laid not his hand: also THEY SAW GOD. And did eat and drink. Now do we have a contradiction in the bible? No, we are going to let the bible interpret the bible. (John 5:37, 39, 43) (v.37) And the father himself which hath sent me, have borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice (the father's) at any time nor seen his shape. So who was it that the 74 elders saw in the mount. None other than the one who became known as Jesus. The one who became known as the Father does not deal with flesh, never has never will. Jesus told you with his own words, (v.39) Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. The scriptures are from Genesis to Malachi. Jesus told you with his own mouth. (v.43) I am come in my Father's name, and ye receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him ye will receive. If Jesus came in his Father's name, then what was Jesus' name before he came in the flesh? It was GOD ALMIGHTY! (Ex. 6:2-3) (v.2) And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the Lord: (v.3) And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JE-HO'-VAH was I not known to them.

(Is. 9:6) Tells us that; For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, THE MIGHTY GOD, The everlasting father, The prince of Peace. (Mat. 1:23) BEHOLD, A VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD, AND SHALL BRING FORTH A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME EM-MAN'-UEL, which being interpreted is, GOD WITH US. That's right the WORD was made flesh and dwelt among us. (1Tim. 3:16) And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: GOD WAS MANIFEST IN THE FLESH, justified in the SPIRIT, seen of angels, preached unto the gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. Is that so hard to see

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that the one that became known as the Son was simply known as God before he became flesh? Let's continue, (1Cor. 10:1-4) (v1) more over brethen, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; (v.2 ) And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; (v.3) And did all eat the same spiritual meat; (v.4) And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that ROCK was CHRIST. That's right that ROCK was Christ. It was Jesus that followed the children of Israel in the wilderness. (Ex. 13:21) And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:. (Deut. 32:4) He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a GOD of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he. Yes that Rock is also GOD. The Old Testament tells you time after time about Jesus, you must have your spiritual eyes on. And you can not, I mean you can not have preconceived notions already; you must let the bible interpret the bible. (Is. 28:9-10) For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little. In other words let the bible interpret the bible. That's what I am doing; I am not trying to put my own interpretation on it. I have picked a precept and put line upon line, line upon line, I took you here a little and there a little, I have not changed the subject.

(Rev. 12:7-9) (v.7) and there was war in heaven: Mi-cha-el and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, (v.8) And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. (v.9) And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out unto the earth and his angels were cast out with him. Now even though we are reading this out of Revelation this war in heaven took place before man was created. Let's look at; (Luke 10:18-19) (v.18) and the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. (v.19) And he said unto them, I beheld SATAN AS LIGHTING FALL FROM HEAVEN. (The word beheld means; from the Strong Concordance; to be a spectator of, behold, consider, look on. That's correct, Jesus was right there and probably was the one that told Michael, to throw Satan out. Now we have dealt with old book and new book just like the bible says. (Is. 8:20) To the law (old book) and to the testimony: (new book) if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. (Mat. 13:51-52) Jesus saith unto them, have ye understood all these things? They say unto him, yea Lord. (v.52) Then said he unto them, therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things NEW AND OLD.

But let's move on, there is one group GROOMED to teach that Jesus is not God. The Jehovah's Witnesses, they claim that Jesus is the Son of God but not God. They also claim that Jesus and Michael the arch- angel are one in the same. Let's take a quick look. The first place I take them is (Heb. 1-14) (v.1) God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, (v.2) Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Yes it was the Son who made the worlds. (v.3) Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down

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on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Now you tell me where in the bible anywhere did it say that any angel purged our sins, or any angel set on the right hand of the father (the Majesty on high). It's not written. (v.4) Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they, It didn't say, so much better than the OTHER angels, but the angels, period! (v.5) For unto which of the angels said he at any time, THOU ART MY SON, THIS DAY HAVE I BEGOTTEN THEE? And again, I WILL BE TO HIM A FATHER, AND HE SHALL BE TO ME A SON. It is true that angels are sometimes called the sons of God. But speaking about the angels as sons, the bible never said, THIS DAY HAVE I BEGOTTEN THEE. "This day" indicates a time when Jesus became the Son of God and that was at his resurrection from the dead, so we know we are not talking about angels here. (v.6) And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM. It didn't say let all the OTHER angels of God worship him, but let ALL the angels of God worship him. (v.8) But unto the Son he saith, (now this is the father talking about the son) THY THRONE, O GOD, IS FOR EVER AND EVER: A SCEPTRE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IS THE SCEPTRE OF THY KINGDOM, Now the father called the Son (Jesus) God who are we to argue. (v.13) But to which of the angels said he at any time, SIT ON MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE THINE ENEMIES THY footstool. Now here's the kicker, he NEVER at ANY time or ANY place in the bible told ANY angel sit thou at my right hand. But it was told to Jesus throughout the bible. So Jesus cannot be Michael the Arch- Angel the bible just proved that. I could have went to several other places, but I think the bible proved its point. The Jehovah's Witnesses love to tell you that when you see the word God in the Old or New Testament it is referring to the father Jehovah. Jehovah is not the father's name. So I take them to; (Rev 1:8) I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord which is, which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. I ask them who is this speaking here? They quickly say Jehovah God, and I agree. (Rev.21:5-7) (v.5) And he that sat upon the throne said behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful. (v.6) And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. I want to know who is speaking here? They are going to say this is also Jehovah God, and I totally agree.

(Rev. 22:13) I am Alpha and Omega the beginning and the end the first and the last. Who is this I ask again? Jehovah God they answer again, I agree again. (Rev. 1:17) And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: same question who is this speaking? You get the same answer from the Jehovah's Witnesses, this is Jehovah God. (v.18) I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, A-men; and have the keys of hell and of death. The question this time is "WHEN DID JEHOVAH GOD DIE"? If you are saying that the Father's name is Jehovah God. Where in the bible did it ever say that the father died? No place! The one who became known as the Son, was Jehovah God in the Old -Testament, yes Jesus is God. The God of all times. He's the only member of the God family that man (flesh) has dealt with.

"FROM GOD TO MAN IN ONE CHAPTER"

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(Is. 50:1-7) (v.1) Thus saith the Lord, Where is the bill of your mother's divorcement, whom I have put away? Or which of my creditors is it to whom I have sold you? Behold, for your iniquities have ye sold yourselves, and for your transgressions is your mother put away. (Now this is the Lord of the Old Testament speaking here.) "THUS SAITH THE LORD"! (v.2) Wherefore, when I came, was there no man? When I called was there none to answer? Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot redeem? Or have I no power to deliver? (Now this Lord of the Old- Testament is about to introduce himself, PAY ATTENTION.) At my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a wilderness: their fish stinketh, because there is no water, and dieth for thirst. Who dried up the sea? (Ex. 14:21-22) The Lord God did. Who make the rivers a wilderness? (Josh. 3:15-17) The lord God did. (Is. 50:3) I cloth the heavens with blackness, and I make sackcloth their covering. Who made darkness? The Lord God did. (v.4) The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. Why is this Lord that has the power to dry up seas and rivers calling some one else God? (v.5) The Lord God hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. That's right, this Lord was not rebellious, he was fulfilling what was prophesied of him. (v.6) I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair; I hide not my face from shame and spitting. What is going on here with the shame and spitting? (Mat. 26:67) Then they spit in his face and buffeted him: and others smote him with the palms of their hands. Come on people, we know that this happened just before the death of Jesus. So the one that dried up the sea and the river and made darkness, is the same one that died for our sins on the cross. This Lord of the Old -Testament is Jesus, and Jesus is God.

So whether you believe Jesus is God or not, you better believe this. (Acts 4:10-13) (v.10) Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole. (v.11) This is THE STONE WHICH WAS SET AT NOUGHT OF YOU BUILDERS, WHICH IS BECOME THE HEAD OF THE CORNER. (v.12) Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

(Is. 12:1-2) (v.1) And in that day thou shalt say, O Lord, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me. (v.2) Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord JE-HO'-VAH is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. So who is your salvation God or Jehovah? Jehovah is God and has become your salvation. But we just read were there was none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved, and that name was Jesus. Is this yet another contradiction, as usual let the bible speak. (Luke 2:25-30) (v.25) And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. (v.26) And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. (v.27) And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, (v.28) Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

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(v.29) Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: (v.30) For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, that's right, the one who was known as Jehovah God in the Old-Testament is the same one known as Jesus in the New-Testament. And has become your salvation.

(John 5:21-23) (v.21) For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickenth them; even so the Son quickenth whom he will. (v.22) For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: (v.23) That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.) Please remember, regardless of your doctrine, if you consider yourself a Christian, I mean a true Christian, the word means a follower of Christ or Christ like. Always read your bible for yourself and pray for understanding. And remember to prove all things. (1Thess. 5:21)

Now a few quick hitters;

Acts 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. When did God shed blood?

1John 3:16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethen. When did God lay down his life for us?

Rev. 22:6 And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done.

Rev. 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. Now who sent this angel, the Lord God of the holy prophets, or Jesus, the answer is "Yes" to both. Jesus is the Lord God of the holy prophets. And how can Jesus be the root and the offspring of David if his existence started with Mary? So in closing remember, that the one who became known as the Son, (Jesus) came through the Virgin Mary in the flesh. But he has always existed as a spirit being from the beginning. One of the two members of the eternal Godhead.

Phil. 2:5-12 (v.5) Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: (v.6) Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: (v.7) But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: (v.8) And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. (v.9) Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name, which is above every name: Now "every" is an absolute, so the name of Jesus is even above the name of Jehovah, yes because Jehovah is not the Father's name.

(v.10) That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth. (v.11) And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is lord, to the glory of God the Father. (v.12) Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as

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in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

(Rev. 20:6) Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

Did you catch that, pay attention, priests of God and of Christ. Is that two persons? Then why did it say "shall reign with HIM a thousand years"? If it was talking about two persons it should have said reign with them a thousand years. But it said reign with him because the Christ is God. And if you had some understanding you would know that this is Jesus kingdom. The Father is still up in heaven during Jesus thousand year reign here on earth.

1John 5:19-20 And we know that the son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his SON JESUS CHRIST. THIS IS THE TRUE GOD, AND ETERNAL LIFE.

Always remember that there is Peace in Jesus.

May The Lord God give skill and understanding to all those who truly seek the truth. In Jesus name, A-MEN