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- SECONDARY: Any use of the NT term ‘Father’ in relation to any event, agent, or teaching in the Hebrew Bible.
- TERTIARY: Passages using the terms “Lord” (=YHWH), or “God” or circumlocution (e.g. “Most High”, “Power”), without a specific OT verse reference, but which would be most likely understood by the hearers as referring to the most ‘visible’ OT Deity.

Part 1

What data is there on the relationship of The Father to the OT Deity ?

SECONDARY: Any use of the NT term 'Father' in relation to any event, agent, or teaching in the Hebrew Bible

If the Father is a distinct being from YHWH, and actually works AGAINST the YHWH-SATAN being, and if Jesus is trying to turn people from worshipping the OT YHWH to worshipping the Father, we might expect some strong statements about that (e.g. contrasts) and NEVER any use of OT titles ('usurped by Satan') or any evil YHWH-type behaviors.

We have plenty of data to work with here (numbers are approximate):

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John	Totals
The Father	3	1	2	59	65
My Father	14		3	19	36
Your Father	17	2	4	2	25
Our Father	1				1
His Father	1	1		1	3
(addressed)	5	1	5	9	20
Other	1	1	1	2	5
Totals	42	6	15	92	155
By Jesus	37	5	13	90	
Other	O+title	Abba	O+title	Holy, O Righteous	

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We have already seen three in the previous section:

1	Matt. 11:25 (Luke 10:21) from Gen 14.22	At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth , that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children;	YHWH, El Elyon, "Possessor of Heaven and Earth"	Jesus' Father , Positive, co-executing the messianic plan Supreme Lord over All – angels, Satan, demons, humans, etc.
2	Luke 23:46 from Psalm 31.5	Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, " Father, into your hands I commit my spirit! " And having said this he breathed his last.	YHWH, Elohim	Positive, trustworthy, FATHER!
3	John 6:45 from Is 54:13	No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, " And they will all be taught by God. " Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me—	YHWH	Positive, teacher and revealer, leads to Christ; FATHER!

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To those we can add a couple more from John:

4	John 10:34-36 from Psalm 82.6	Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I said, you are gods'? If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken— do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'? [Psalm contained 'you are sons of the Most High' – Elyon.]	El, Elyon, Judge over all	Jesus' Father , is identified as the speaker in this Psalm; Elyon never refers to any being but YHWH; always used as parallel title in the Psalms
5	John 6:32	Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven.	YHWH	Jesus' Father , is identified as the one who provided the Manna in the Wilderness period
6	John 8:54 with v41	Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ' He is our God .' (their claim in v41: "You are doing the works your father did." They said to him, "We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God*.")	YHWH,	Jesus states that his FATHER is the one they claim as their God (=YHWH)

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*Note: the Hebrew Bible recognizes YHWH as their Father, in a couple of places (largely as creator, but sometimes more intimate, and sometimes only shown in imagery):

- Do you thus repay the LORD, you foolish and senseless people? Is not he your father, who created you, who made you and established you? [Deut 32.6, Song of Moses]
- For you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name. [Is 63:16]
- **But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. [Is 64.8]**

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The above passages connecting the Father to the OT deity are very clear and explicit, but **we can add further connections** – which will prepare us for more sober assessments of what Jesus actually warned us about.

Part 2

What data is there on the relationship of The Father to the OT Deity ?

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- We look NOW at characteristics of the Father as pointed out by Jesus (and **HIS continuity with OT YHWH**).
- Some of these have been mentioned already, but should be restated here, and a couple of these are about Jesus himself--as a manifestation of the Father—in **HIS continuity with OT YHWH**).
- These range from the 'pleasant' to the 'unpleasant' (by our standards), but even the harshest-sounding judgment passages must be seen IN CONTINUITY WITH the **stated** attitudes of OT YHWH, that *"... He does not enjoy bringing affliction or suffering on mankind"* [Lam 3:33, HCSB].
- Some of these will probably be less 'agreeable' to positions like the Other-Voice, but they must be mentioned for the sake of **honesty**, clarity, and fairness to the message from the Lord.

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