

## Almighty God—“El Shaddai”- Mother like God

El Shaddai is another name for God that explains another aspect of who God is. When Abraham was 99 years old, God appeared, said to Abraham, “I am Almighty God.” what God actually said in Hebrew to Abraham was, “I am El Shaddai.” Throughout Bible God refers to Himself by different names and titles. Each name reveals an aspect of His nature, character and power. The name Elohim, in Gen. 1, is revealed as the Creator of the heavens and the earth. LORD (YHWH) “I AM” means the self-existing One or “the Eternal.” *Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting to everlasting!* (PSA41:13)

El Shaddai: The word shaddai means “most powerful” or “Almighty.” “El” refers to God, means “mighty, strong, power.” So, when put together, the name means “God Almighty” or “God the Most Powerful.” Almighty God, emphasizes God’s power and strength. The Lord’s sovereign might to do whatever He purposes to do. *Your right hand, Lord, was majestic in power. Your right hand, Lord, shattered the enemy.* (EXO15:6) He is able to triumph over every obstacle and all opposition; He is able to subdue all things to Himself, and no one can stop Him from accomplishing His will. *But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.* (PSA115:3) The word “Shaddai” is formed from shad—the bosom—and shadah—to pour out blessings. Shaddai also means sufficient; God is the all sufficient One. He is the only one with the power and provision to meet our needs. He takes our weaknesses and shows His strength. El Shaddai is our All-Sufficient Sustainer who mightily nourishes, satisfies, protects, supplies His people. It is God the satisfier who helps, gives richly, abundantly blesses with all manner of blessings into our lives. To experience God’s sufficiency we must realize our own insufficiency.

*For thus says the Lord: Behold, I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; You will be like a child that is nursed by its mother, carried in her arms, as a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.* (ISA66:12-13) God promises to comfort them—to give them relief—to help them find release from their repressed sorrow and emotion. God’s divine comfort is most endearing and effective. No other relationship can expressively represent parental kindness of God, as an affectionate mother caring for her beloved child. God will comfort His people with all the affection and care of a mother. God is Love! Name El shaddai, clearly indicates that the righteous and loving God cares for us as a mother—a comforting mother cares for a newborn child.

God revealed Himself as God Almighty when Abraham was struggling to believe that God could still carry out His promise to make him a father of many nations. God’s Name in this context conveys His ability to fulfill His promises. *When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless. . . I will . . . multiply thee exceedingly.”* (GEN17:1-8) The only thing God asks of Abraham is to keep the covenant; walk before God and be blameless. If he walks in obedience, there is great blessing ahead for not only himself but all his descendants. Almighty God not only enriches but makes fruitful. God would be sufficient for Abraham’s every need. He would be Abraham’s El Shaddai. Through indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, El Shaddai provides everything we need to walk the path which God is taking us. In great compassion, He sustains, nourishes and protects us. He takes our inadequate resources and in His sufficiency. (2CO12:9) God promises to be sufficient for anything that He allows in your life and will save all those who trust in Him. Do you look for mighty displays of Lord’s power in your life? Do you trust Him to overcome what may be impossible obstacles for you? Will you, in faith, walk before Him, believing that He is sufficient? God is the one who empowered us for the ministry to serve Him. *but our sufficiency is from God.* (2CO3:5)

The root word for “Shaddai” is “shaddu,” means “mountain.” God lives in Heaven, but He inhabited a mountain top—Mount Zion. (PSA132:13) The most obvious expression of God’s might is as the Creator. He is the Maker of all things in the universe including men. All things were created through the Lord’s power and for Him. Remember that *God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.* (GEN1:27;2:21) God’s people experienced El Shaddai as a God who blessed them and promised them a hope. The people of Israel experienced their God as one who appeared to them in the mountains. He is our Father and our Mother; He is our Lord, and our God. *“I will lift up my eyes to the hills from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth.*

God in all forms is our comforter, our nurturer, loving us, bringing us forth, feeding us, nourishing us. Jesus promised: *And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may dwell with you forever.* (JOH.14:16) The Holy Spirit is identified as the Comforter. This role of comforting is associated with mothering. The Holy Spirit reveals spiritual truths to believers, takes our prayers and the intents of our hearts, gives spiritual gifts of healing, prophecy and speaking words of wisdom. Bible says that by the grace of God, virgin Mary, the earthly mother of Christ, conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. (LUK1:30-31) The Holy Spirit gives new birth. *but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.* (GAL4:26) The believers are born again of the Heavenly Mother. When we are born again by faith in Lord Jesus Christ we are born into the Kingdom of Heaven. Our citizenship is in heaven, we become—new creatures. (PHI3:20) The sons and daughters of God are the assembly of believers. The covenant members of the church are spiritual brothers and sisters, born of same spiritual Mother of the same womb. We should behave like God’s very own children, the Spirit you received into the bosom of His family. Mary praises the Lord with song. Mary rejoices that she has the privilege of giving birth to the promised Messiah. (LUK1:46–48) Mary glorifies God for His power, holiness and mercy. (v.49–50)

What a mighty God we serve and we need to praise Him. He invites us to call on Him “Abba Father” in prayer so He can show us great and mighty things. The mighty God, embodied in Jesus Christ, He worked mighty miracles to assist His people, rescue them. He raised people from the dead! Experience God’s fullness as He has revealed Himself all-sufficient El Shaddai, Be of good comfort. We see the heart of a mother in expression of God’s nature. *Can a woman forget her nursing child, And not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, Yet I will not forget you.* (ISA49:15)