

THE NAMES OF GOD

Throughout the Old Testament the word "God" has been translated from the following four Hebrew terms.

Elohim (plural form) "The Strong and Faithful One" Gen.1:1,26, used 2,550 times.

El (singular form) "The Strong Mighty One" used 225 times in the Old Testament.

Elah (Aramaic plural form) same meaning, used in Daniel and Ezra.

Eloha (singular form) same meaning, used exclusively in Job.

El Shaddai (Heb.) "Almighty God" literally should be translated "The Strong All-Sufficient One", the nourisher, the satisfier and strength giver. The One who pours forth the resources that we need to be fruitful, even chastisement. Study Jn. 15:1-10; Ruth 1; Heb.12:10-11; Gen.17:1-6; Job 1:1,2,3,5:17) (El Shaddai is used 30 times in Job). Don't resist His discipline, correction and guidance in your life to make you fruitful.

El Roi (Heb.) "Thou God sees me" Gen. 16:1-16. God saw Hagar in her time of need and helped her when no one else cared. The God of the individual. The spiritual application of this carries into the omniscience and omnipresence of God. God knows our heart, we can't fool Him (I Sam. 16:7; Heb. 4:33) (Ps. 34:15; 139:16; Prov. 5:21; 15:3; 22:12) Is there anything He doesn't see?

El Elyon (Heb.) "The Most High God", Gen. 14:19. The double "el" prefix makes the term literally mean "The Strongest Strong One". Elyon means the highest exalted One, implying there is none other! El Elyon is the "possessor of heaven and earth" (Gen. 14:19). Nebuchadnezzar in all his pride was dealt with by El Elyon! Dan. 1-4: 34,35. Lucifer attempted the impossible, to be higher than the Most High (Isa. 14:12-14) again pride was dealt with. El Elyon is in supreme authority and has given rule to who He has chosen. He is in control and interested in our affairs personally (Rom. 8:28-29).

El Olam (Heb) "The Everlasting God" Isa. 40:28. The word "olam" means (1) "secret or hidden things" (Lev. 5:2; Ps. 10:1) or concealed (2) an "indefinite time or age" "at any time" in Lev. 25:32; "in old time" Josh. 24:2. So when the exact time wasn't known, an uncalculated time or indefinite, the word olam was used, later being translated eternal or everlasting (Ps. 90:2; Gen. 21:33). This title to God takes in His unchangeableness Ps. 100:5; 103:17 and reveals Him as inexhaustible (Isa. 40:28; II Pet. 3:8; Dt. 29:29; Rom. 11:33-34; Isa. 55:8-9). Ask Him to reveal Himself to you as you look up these verses, and don't ever reduce Him to your size, or put Him in a box.

Lord (Heb.) Adon (sing.), Adonai (plural), (Greek-kurios) means Master, Ruler, Sovereign. It's used for both man to man and man to Deity. Used in husband and wife relationship (I Pet. 3:6; Gen. 18:12) and master slave relationship (Gen. 24:9,10,12). These are two principles that always apply to this relationship between Adonai and his bond servant: (1) The master has the right to expect and demand absolute obedience from the servant. (2) The servant can expect supervision, direction and provision for his service to his Lord. (Study Isa. 6:1-9, note usages of LORD and Lord) (Matt. 23:10; Lk. 6:46). Don't reverse the roles.

LORD (Heb. Yahweh) translated Jehovah - means "The self existant One" Ex. 3:14-15. The "I am" "He that is who He is", the verb tense "to be" "to become" - "The self existant One who reveals himself. LORD, Jehovah is the distinctive name of Deity for redemption, occurs over 6000 times. This title name is associated with (1) His absolute holiness (Lev. 11:44-45; 19:1,2; 20:26) (2) His hatred and judgement of sin (Gen. 6:3-7; Ex. 34:6,7; Deut. 32:35-42; Ps. 11:5-6) and (3) His love and salvation for sinner His work of redemption (Gen. 3:8,21; Ex. 3:1-10; Isa. 53:1,5,6,10). Has He revealed Himself to you as Redeemer?

Jehovah Nissi (Heb.) "The LORD our Banner" Ex. 17:8-15. The term Nissi means warflag, ensign, a banner or emblem of victory and strength, a rallying point for the army. The spiritual application is that there is no victory over the flesh apart from dependence upon the power of God. (II Cor. 10:4-5; Eph. 6:12-18; Gal. 5:16,17; Isa. 11:10; Rom. 13:14). Is He your rallying point of victory?

Jehovah Jireh (Heb.) "The LORD will provide" Gen. 22:1-18. Jireh literally means "to see to it", or "to provide". The condition under which Abraham was able to experience this is one of absolute surrender, willing to yield the most precious thing in life, his own son. This Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. God was committing himself "to see to it" that the necessary provision would be made on the behalf of sinful man. (Rom. 8:32; Jn. 1:29; II Cor. 5:21; I Pe. 3:18; Phil. 4:19). Is the meaning of this real in your life? Are you sharing it with others?

Jehovah Shalom(Heb.) "The LORD over peace" or "The LORD send peace" Judges 6:22-24. Shalom means literally "safe" or "happy" or "friendly" or "at peace". The spiritual application can refer to peace with God (reconciliation) (Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:14; Col. 1:20) or the peace of God (Jn. 14:27; 16:33; Phil. 4:7). The context of Judges 6 implies that peace with God is possible. In either case the LORD is the only source for you to have PEACE in any sense of the word.

Jehovah Rapha (Heb.) "The LORD that healeth" Ex. 15:26. It is clearly known from the testimony of the Scriptures that God is able to heal, if it is according to His will. (I Jn. 5:14-15; Ps. 103:3; Jer. 17:14; Js. 5:14-16).

Jehovah - Rohi or Jehovah Raah (Heb.) "The LORD, my Shepherd" Ps. 23. Raah literally means to tend, to companion, to pasture, to shepherd. This implies the special, individual and personal relationship the LORD desires to have toward us. Jesus explains deeper insight to us in Jn. 10:11-30. Heb. 13:20; I Pet. 5:2-4; Ps. 22 all reveal the Good, Great, Chief, Chepherd and His past, present, future ministry of eternal salvation to us.

Jehovah-Tsidkenu (Heb.) "The LORD our Righteousness" Jer. 22:23:6. In the context of Jeremiah this name is revealed in a prophecy concerning the future restoration and conversion of Israel. Through the completed work of Jesus on the cross believers are now clothes in the righteousness of Him. (Rom. 10:3-4; Rom. 3:21-24; I Cor. 1:30; Phil. 3:4-9).

Jehovah-Shammah (Heb.) "The LORD is present" or "The LORD is there". Ezek. 48:35. The indication of this term is that He is the One who delights to be where His people are. To gain full appreciation of the context in which this title is used, read Ezek. 8-10; 11:22; Joel 3:21; Ps. 16:11 (personal application) Mt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5.

Jehovah-Saboath (Heb.) "The LORD of Hosts" I Sam. 1:3; Ps. 24:10. Saboath literally means "to mass together" or "to assemble". The underlying thought here is that He is the Lord of armies, heavenly hosts in the angelic realm and has never had a defeat! The term is used in reference to angels, (Ps. 103:21; 148:2) and of Israel (Ex. 12:41) Jeremiah uses the term about 80 times, Haggai 14 times, Zechariah 50 times and Malachi 25 times. This is significant because it is only the LORD of Hosts who can restore Israel to her proper future kingdom. The Ruler over all will bring the hosts of heaven to aid His people on earth because He is the Guardian and Protector of His own! (Js. 5:4; Ps. 46:7,11) What a comfort!

Jehovah M'Kaddesh (or Jehovah-m'qaddishkem) Heb.) The LORD that Sanctifieth" Ex.31:13 The term "qadash" means "to pronounce clear" to didicate, to concecrate, to hallow. It's the word used of a sanctuary, a place set apart. Those who call God their LORD must be set apart for holy living because Jehovah M'Kaddesh commands it! The church today is responsible to the same God who's purpose has called us out of the world's mold. (I Pe. 2:9; Jn. 17; Heb. 10:10; 13:15; I Cor. 6:19; Eph. 2:20-21). Let Him have all of you.

Hua (Heb.) "The Changeless One" Ps. 102:25-27 "The same" Heb. ^{13:8}~~1:12~~. Think for about 10 minutes about how many things around you are changing. Now look up these references plus Ps. 102:27; and Heb. 13:8. Time, circumstances, problems, moods plus "nothing" will change Him! (Isa. 45:5; Dt. 6:4-5!) ~~Jn 8:58 & Cor. 1:19~~

For a deeper and more meaning understanding and application of these names of God to your personal life, study one name a day by looking up all the related references.

Names of God

- 1. Elohim
- 2. El Shaddai
- 3. El Elyon
- 4. El Olam
- 5. El Roi

Perfections of God

- 1. Omnipotence
- 2. Love and Grace
- 3. Omniscience (Sovereignty)
- 4. Eternity and immutability
- 5. Omnipresence and Omniscience

Names of God

- 1. Lord
- 2. LORD

Responsibilities of Man

- 1. Obedience
- 2. Dependence