

Almighty God—"El Shaddai"- Mother like God

*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.*(Isaiah 66:12-13) 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. Name El shaddai, clearly indicates that the righteous and loving God cares for us as a mother cares for a newborn child.

One of the names for the Lord, El Shaddai, translated into English as "Almighty God," means the Lord's sovereign might to do whatever He purposes to do.(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.(Psa.115:3) The basic form for the Hebrew name of God is "El" means "mighty, strong and power." The word "Shaddai" is formed from shad—the bosom—and shadah—to pour out blessings. El Shaddai is our All-Sufficient Sustainer who mightily nourishes, satisfies, protects and supplies His people. It is God the satisfier who helps and gives richly, abundantly blesses with all manner of blessings into believing lives. To experience God's sufficiency we must realize our own insufficiency.

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."*(Gen.17:1-8) 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 the 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 weakness and gives strength. He takes our inadequate resources and in His sufficiency.(2Cor12:9) Friend, He 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 insurmountable obstacles for you? Will you, in faith, walk before Him, believing that He is sufficient?

God lives in Heaven, but He also inhabited a mountain top—Mount Zion.(Ps.132:13) 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.*(Gen.1:27;2:21) God's people experienced El Shaddai as a God who blessed them and promised them a hope and a future. 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.*(Ps121:1;128:5;9:11

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, interprets our prayers and the intents of our hearts, gives spiritual gifts of healing, prophecy and speaking words of wisdom. The Bible says that by the grace of God, virgin Mary, the earthly mother of Christ, conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.(Luk 1:30-31) The Holy Spirit gives new birth to the Elect. *but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.*(Gal.4:26)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. Phi. 3:20 says, Our citizenship is in heaven, we become—new creatures. The sons and daughters of God are the assembly of believers. The covenant members of the church are spiritual brothers and sisters, born of the same spiritual Mother of the same womb. We should behave like God's very own children, the Spirit you received adopted into the bosom of His family.

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. We can trust Him because He is trustworthy; He is our solid rock, hiding place, our deliverer and protector. We are wise to love and trust Him with all our heart, soul, strength and mind. The mighty God, embodied in Jesus Christ, fed thousands, healed people and cast out demons that tormented them. He worked mighty miracles to assist His people and rescue them. He raised people from the dead! It's important that to experience as our all-sufficient El Shaddai. Experience God's fullness as He has revealed Himself, we must first empty ourselves, which El Shaddai can then fill Spirit and use. Mary sang a song and worship to the Lord! My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name. And His mercy is on those who fear Him.(Luke1:46-50) Be of good comfort; *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.*(Isaiah 49:15)