



# In the Name of “the LORD”

**Ezekiel 38:23 “I will magnify Myself, sanctify Myself, and make Myself known in the sight of many nations; and they will know that I am “*the LORD*”.”**

# What does “the LORD” mean?

- Hebrew *YHWH* – In Greek its called the tetragrammaton, (four letters)
- It is the personal name of God, every other one is either a title or a description of Him, and even *YHWH* has a basic meaning that reveals something about him.
- The divine name Yahweh (*YHWH*) is usually translated “LORD” in English versions of the Bible, because it became a practice in late Old Testament Judaism not to pronounce the sacred name *YHWH*, but to say instead “my Lord” (Adonai)—a practice still used today in the synagogue. When the vowels of Adonai were attached to the consonants *YHWH* in the medieval period (this was done by the Masoretes A.D. 500-1000), the word Jehovah resulted.

*Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary*

# Why was the Name Replaced?

- Ex. 20:7 “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.”
- Lev. 24:10-16 ~ The first bad example was stoned
- The pronunciation of *YHWH* in the OT can never be certain, since the original Hebrew text used only consonants. The vowel points added in the MT are not those of the name itself, (*ISBE*)
- But the early Greek transliterations of the name by Clement of Alexandria and Theodoret, respectively *iaoue* and *iabe* (*b* pronounced as an English *v*), have led scholars to the view that “Yahweh” is probably the closest equivalent to the original pronunciation. (*ISBE*)

# Who is Yahweh?

- Elohim – “gods” the im on hebrew words indicate a plural word
  - Gen 1:26 "Then God (elohim) said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”“
  - Gen 2:4 "This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD (YHWH) God (elohim) made earth and heaven.“
  - Deut 6:4 ""Hear, O Israel! The LORD (YHWH) is our God (elohim) , the LORD (YHWH) is one!"

# Who is Yahweh?

## ■ El Shaddai – “god almighty”

- Gen 17:1-2 "Now when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD (YHWH) appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; Walk before Me, and be blameless.”
- Ex 6:3 "and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as God Almighty (el shaddai), but by My name, LORD (YHWH), I did not make Myself known to them.”
- Not that they didn’t know the name but they didn’t fully know its meaning as Moses and Israel learned
  - Gen 14:22 "Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have sworn to the LORD (YHWH) God Most High (el shaddai), possessor of heaven and earth,”

# Who is Yahweh?

- **Adonai – “master”** This word is used of people in position of authority as well as of God, in relation to God it occurs most often with *YHWH*.
  - **Is 61:1** "The Spirit of the Lord (adonai) GOD (YHWH) is upon me, Because the Lord has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners;"
  - **Ezek 5:5** "Thus says the Lord (adonai) GOD (YHWH), 'This is Jerusalem; I have set her at the center of the nations, with lands around her.'"

# Who is Yahweh?

## ■ “I AM” – I was, I am, I will be

- One of the most important names for God in the Old Testament is Yahweh, or Jehovah, from the verb “to be,” meaning simply but profoundly, “He Is.” His full name is found only in Ex. 3:14 and means “I am who I am” or “I will be who I will be.” *Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary*
- Ex 3:14-15 “God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ” God, furthermore, said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations.”

# Yahweh is the Christ!

- “I AM” ~ Rev 1:8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

- Adonai ~ Psalm 110:1 " A Psalm of David. The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.””

- Elohim ~ Is 40:3 "A voice is calling, “Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness; Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God.”

- Yahweh ~ Is 40:3(above) & Mal 3:1 " “Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts.”