"KNOWING WHO GOD IS"

Introduction: In the Bible when someone named their child, the name had significance. A name described or characterized a persons temperament or personality. (ex. "Esau" = hairy; "Jacob" = supplanter; "Abraham" = Father of many people.)

I. Names and titles of God.

A. ELOHIM - "The strong One" ("The God of power").

Psalm 46:1

This name proves: He has strength we can trust.

Our God is strong! (He is always able)

B. Combination of names with ELOHIM
(Some names are compound words - ex.Daniel = 1) El (God) + 2) Dan (judge) + 3) i (my) - "My Judge is God"

1) EL Elyon - Lit. "The Strongest Strong One" (the Most High God) - Genesis 14:18.

2) EL Olam - "The Strong One Who lives Forever" ("Everlasting God") - Genesis 21:33

3) EL Shaddai - "The Strong One Who is All Sufficient" ("All Sufficient God") - Genesis 17:1

4) EL Roi - "The Strong One Who Sees me" (Gen.16:13)

C. YAHWEH (JEHOVAH) - "Self Existent One"

Exodus 3:14 "I AM THAT I AM"

This name proves: God never changes; He is faithful, dependable & trustworthy.

Our God is faithful! (He is always there)

D. Combinations of names with JEHOVAH:

1) Jehovah Jireh - "The Lord will see to it" (The Lord will provide) Genesis 22:13-14

He provides for us.

2) Jehovah Rapha - "The Lord that heals" Exodus 15:26

He heals us.

3) Jehovah Nissi - "The Lord our banner" (Our victory) Exodus 17:15
He gives us victory.

4) Jehovah Qadash - "The Lord that sanctifies" (Set us apart) Leviticus 20:7-8

He sanctifies us.

5) Jehovah Shalom - "The Lord our Peace" Judges 6:23-24
He is our peace.

6) Jehovah Tsidkenu - "The Lord our Righteousness" Jer. 23:6
He is our righteousness.

7) Jehovah Shammah - "The Lord is there" (The Lord who is present) Ezekiel 48:35

He is always present.

8) Jehovah Sabaoth - "The Lord of hosts" (of armies) I Samuel 17:45
He fights our Battles.

9) Jehovah Ra-ah - "The Lord my Shepherd" Psalm 23:1
He leads and feeds us.

10) Jehovah El Gmolah - "The Lord God of Recompense" Jeremiah 51:56
Vengeance is His (He will judge)

11) Jehovah Nakeh - "The Lord that Smiteth" Ezekiel 7:9
He punishes sin.

E. ADONAI - "Lord; Ruler; Master; Owner"

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Our God is Sovereign! (He is always in control)

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To have a "good name" - means to have a good reputation.

God's names describe what kind of God He is.

See Exodus 34:6-7 - Moses' response was worship.

If we understand the meaning of the name of God, our response will be to get on our knees and worship.

I. Names and titles of God.

A. ELOHIM - "The strong One" ("The God of power").

The name "Elohim" occurs 2570 times in the O.T.

Psalm 46:1

This name proves: He has strength we can trust.

The strength of Elohim - Gen. 1:1; II Sam. 22:33; Ps. 18:32, 43:2, 73:26, 81:1; Neh. 6:9.

--Nothing is impossible with God!
--He created the universe, the earth, etc.
--He parted the Red Sea
--Jesus fed 5,000 men with 4 loaves and 2 fish.
--Jesus raised the dead, walked on water, healed the lame

Nothing is impossible!

Let Him fight your battles, give you strength, save your marriage, protect your

family, etc.

Our God is strong! (He is always able)

B. Combination of names with ELOHIM
(Some names are compound words - ex.Daniel = 1) El (God) + 2) Dan (judge) + 3) i (my) - "My Judge is God"

1) EL Elyon - Lit. "The Strongest Strong One" (the Most High God) - Genesis 14:18.

In a day of pantheism, God made it clear that he was the One above everything that is called god. This name points to the majesty of God. He is above all!

In Is. 14:13-14, Satan wanted to be like the "most High."

Since that time everyone wants to steal the prerogatives that belong only to God.

Men think they are God (EX: Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar, Herod; EX: Mormons, New Age Movement)

Because God is "El Elyon," we are on the winning side!

2) EL Olam - "The Strong One Who lives Forever" ("Everlasting God") - Genesis 21:33

God was around (in existence) before us, and will be after us. Why not trust Him?

El Olam is with the believer forever (Mt. 28:20)

3) EL Shaddai - "The Strong One Who is All Sufficient" ("All Sufficient God") - Genesis 17:1

"Shaddai" = from (breasts) cp. Is. 28:9, Is. 60:16, 66:11; Job 24:9.

Picture of a mother and her care for her children.

Teaches us about the love and all-sufficiency of God. He totally nourishes and satisfies.

Job, who depended on the sufficiency of God, uses this word 35 times.

God is all we need! He satisfies.
Jesus said: "Come to me...I will give you rest."

God gives more than enough! He fills our cup! He is generous.

"Ask...("It shall be given") Seek...knock" (Mt. 7:7) "For everyone that asketh receiveth" (Mt. 7:8)

"He has blessed us with all spiritual blessings" (Eph. 1:3ff)

El Shaddai is all that we need!

NOTE: We need the Provider more than provision!

4) EL Roi - "The Strong One Who Sees me" (Gen.16:13)

His eye is on the sparrow (Mt. 10:29-31)

See Ps. 33:18; 34:15.

Nothing escapes God's notice.

He looks with favor upon the righteous and guides them (Ps. 32:8)

El Roi watches out for us!

C. YAHWEH (JEHOVAH) - "Self Existent One"

The name "Yahweh" is the person name of God (cp. Ps. 83:18; Is. 26:4) and is the most frequently used name. It occurs 5321 times in the O.T.

This name is used only of the true God. The pagans never referred to their gods by this name.

Jews viewed this name to be so holy that they never would utter it. (EX: bath and new pen each time they would write it)

The word "Yahweh" (Heb. YHWH) comes from the root (Hawa), which is the Heb. "to be" verb.

The term signifies existence/ that which is real (as opposed to idols).

The tetragrammaton YHWH originally did not have vowels (like the entire O.T.) until the Masoretes added the vowels (about 1,008 A.D.).

The vowel points for "Adonay" were used - hence the English spelling YaHoWaH

Exodus 3:14 "I AM THAT I AM"

Dt. 32:40 - "For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever."

Is. 44:6 - "Thus saith the Lord the King of Israel, and his redeemer the Lord of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God."

He always existed (in 3 persons!)

NOTE: Jesus is the "I AM" of the O.T. (Jn. 8:58 - Note reaction of Jews [v. 59] for claiming to be Yahweh).
This name proves: God never changes; He is faithful, dependable & trustworthy.

The name "Jehovah" is used to show God as the "Covenant Keeper" (Ex. 6:3).

God's faithfulness to His Word is even above His Name! (Cp. Heb. 6:13; Ps. 138:2)

Our God is faithful! (He is always there)

D. Combinations of names with JEHOVAH:

1) Jehovah Jireh - "The Lord will see to it" (The Lord will provide) Genesis 22:13-14 Cp. v. 8

He provides for us.

SEE verse 8. The word "provide" (v. 8) is the Heb. word "Jireh." Abraham looking through the eyes of faith knew that God would provide for Himself a lamb!

God provided for us His lamb - the Lord Jesus.

Jesus is called "The Lamb of God" - Jn. 1:29.

Jesus is the Lamb provided by the Father (cp. I Pet. 1:19, 20)

Our salv. is all of God! "For God so loved ... that He gave..." (Jn. 3:16)

All that we need for life and godliness has been provided by our loving Heavenly Father!

2) Jehovah Rapha - "The Lord that heals" Exodus 15:26

Deut. 32:39-40 - "See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand. For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever."

Ps. 103:2-3 - "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases"

God heals today through prayer (James 5:15)

He heals us.

3) Jehovah Nissi - "The Lord our banner" (Our victory) Exodus 17:15

"Banner" = sign, standard, or signal pole that was raised up on a high place as a rallying point

People would draw together around such a banner for war (EX: Is. 5:26, Jer. 51:27)

The banner served as a point of focus or an object of hope.

In Ex. 17:15, Moses realized that YAHWEH was the banner around which Israel had rallied.

We must rally around our Lord Jesus Christ, who has been lifted up (EX: Num. 21:8-9; Jn. 3:14-15)

He is our "ensign" (Is. 11:10-12).

We have the victory through our Lord Jesus (I Cor. 15:57). (There is no victory outside of Him)

He gives us victory.

4) Jehovah Qadash - "The Lord that sanctifies" (Set us apart) Leviticus 20:7-8

God sets us apart just like He did to israel.

God set apart Jeremiah (Jer. 1:5).

We are sanctified through the truth (Bible) (Jn. 17:17)

We are sanctified by the Holy Spirit (Ro. 15:16;
I Pet. 1:2)
We are sanctified because of our faith (Acts 26:17)
We are sanctified in Christ (I Cor. 1:2; Heb. 2:11; 10:10)

He sanctifies us.

5) Jehovah Shalom - "The Lord our Peace" Judges 6:23-24

Gideon knew that no man could see God's face and live (Ex. 33:20).

(No one can stand in God's presence without being at peace with god)

Ro. 5:1 - "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

He is our peace.

6) Jehovah Tsidkenu - "The Lord our Righteousness" Jer. 23:6

In the Millennium the Messiah (Jesus) will be called "The LORD (YAHWEH) our Righteousness." (This verse shows that Jesus is Jehovah)

We cannot be saved by our own righteousness (we must have "the righteousness of God" - Ro. 3:21-26; 10:3-4)

I Cor. 1:30 - "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption." (cp. II Cor. 5:21)

He is our righteousness.

7) Jehovah Shammah - "The Lord is there" (The Lord who is present) Ezekiel 48:35

He is always present.

8) Jehovah Sabaoth - "The Lord of hosts" (of armies) I Samuel 17:45

"Sabaoth" = lit. "to mass together or assemble."

God is the Lord of the armies of Heaven (angelic beings)

SEE David and Goliath (I Sam. 17:45).

Because the Lord of Armies was fighting for David, Goliath didn't stand a chance.

You + God make a majority.

If you "Play doubles" with God on your side, you can't lose.

SEE Elisha - II Ki. 6:15-17.

There is a realm into which the physical eye cannot see and the physical ear cannot hear.
Today we wrestle against spiritual wickedness; but we don't do it alone!

Ps. 34:7 - "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."

ILLUS: Martin Luther's hymn - "A mighty fortress is our God...Lord Sabaoth His name"

He fights our Battles.

9) Jehovah Ra-ah - "The Lord my Shepherd" Psalm 23:1
He leads and feeds us.

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