The Covenant Names of God: Elohim



Scripture

• Exodus 33:18-20

Then Moses said, "I pray You, show me Your glory! And He said, "I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion." But He said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!"

• Exodus 34:6-8

Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished, visiting the iniquity of fathers on the children and on the grandchildren to the third and fourth generations." Moses made haste to bow low...and worship.

• **Genesis 1:1**

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

• **Genesis 1:26**

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness..."

• Exodus 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."

• Exodus 6:2-3

God spoke further to Moses and said to him, "I am the LORD; and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name, YHWH, I did not make Myself known to them.

Other Scriptures

- John 1:18
- Matt. 27:46

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Main Points

- 1. Knowing God's personal name, we can have revelation about who He is.
- 2. God's Personal Name-Yahweh/YHWH
- 3. The English word Genesis in Hebrew is Bereshit.
- 4. First mention of God in Gen. 1:1 in Hebrew is Elohim. Not a name but a title.
- 5. Elohim is the plural of El. Singular meaning is lord.
- 6. Within the Godhead there is a multidimensional aspect.
- 7. Within the Godhead there is relationship.
- 8. The only time Jesus referred to the Father as God is when He felt forsaken.
- 9. Jesus knew God as His Father.
- 10. Covenant name of God is YHWH/Yahweh.
- 11. Covenant name of God is El Shaddai or God Almighty.
- 12. Jewish people refer to him as Lord, or Adonai (Hebrew name).
- 13. God's name Yahweh is used over 7,000 times in the Old Testament.
- 14. God's name Yahweh is a verb. Tense=continuous unfinished action.
- 15. Father God is alive and active and involved in your life every second of every day.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Why do you suppose God had to reveal Himself to Moses in the cleft of the rock?
- 2. Revelation of God's covenant name was a genuine gift of God to man. Does this allow you to know God more personally in your life? How does this help?

 The multidimensional aspect of His plural name also helps us know more about the truth of the Persons of the godhead and helps us understand Genesis' use of "let us" and "our image". Knowing the Persons of God were there in creation lets us know their deity as well. Does this increase your understanding of the Son? Tell how.
- **3.** God is a verb. What is he "doing" in your life right now? If He created you and promises to finish His work in you, will He not do it? Give some consideration to ways you have perhaps not really trusted Him in the work He is doing in you. Surrender to His divine plan today and let Him know you trust Him, YHWH, today.