

Homework Sheet: Who is God? Part 3

So far we've been learning about God through His attributes. What have you learned so far?

Write down a brief description of the following attributes, then write down a couple of sentences about how this impacts you.

Omnipresence

Omnipotence

Omniscience

Sovereignty

Immutability

Love

Another way to learn about God is to study His names. As we look closely at what God called Himself, we can see certain parts of His character that He has chosen to reveal. Though there are many names God uses of Himself in the Bible, we will focus on a few that may be of special encouragement to you!

Elohim

Usage

It was a term used to describe the general sense of His deity.

It occurs about 2,750 times in the Old Testament.

Read Gen. 1:1

Meaning

Though its original derivation is debated, most believe the name means "Strong One." It speaks of his powerful deity.

Plurality

The name is actually in the plural form. It would be like calling your mom, "Moms."

Why was it done that way? Well, we can be sure but there are three possibilities.

1. *It was used in a polytheistic sense.*
In other words, to denote many Gods.

However, what does Deut. 6:5 say?

2. *It was a revelation of the Trinity*
Though we can say that it **ALLOWS** for the trinity, we cannot say it was intended to teach the trinity. We see this because the verbs and pronouns that surround the name are always singular.
3. *It was a majestic emphasis*
Back in that culture, kings and people in prominent positions would be referred to in the plural, and this explanation fits it best. He is Majestic!!

APPLICATION:

God is the mighty, majestic God of the universe. He is all powerful. He is God.

How does this truth impact you?

So Elohim is His most general name. We also see that word being combined with others in what is called His **compound names**. These really begin to reveal Who is He!

El-Shaddai

Though the origin is uncertain, most believe the it comes from a word that means "mountain." Thus, this name of God picture Him as the Almighty One standing on a mountain.

It was used with Abraham to bring comfort and confirmation of the covenant.

Read Gen. 17:1; Gen. 28:3. What is God called in these verses?

Read them again out-loud. Replace "Almighty God" with "El-Shaddai"

How does this truth impact you?

El Elyon

It means "Most High God" and emphasizes his strength, sovereignty, and supremacy.

In the history of the world, it was first used of Satan

Read Is. 14:14 What is God called in these verses? _____

Satan's pride wanted to be light the MOST HIGH GOD.

You can't be *like* the most high for then He would cease to be the most high. You have to be *better than* the most high to be the most high yourself. PRIDE!!! What and ugly, ugly sin.

How does the fact that God is the "Most High" impact you?

Yahweh

It is actually more accurately written YHWH, all consonants, but we translate it into Yahweh.

Origin

As with many of these very, very ancient names of God, it is difficult to determine what the word actually means, but all indications are it is a root of a word that means "to be" and it is an emphasis on His self-existence.

Usage

Though Eve used it as early as Gen. 4, the full meaning of the name is revealed in Exodus.

TURN TO and READ: Exodus 3:13-14

Moses wants to know in what name he should say that he had been sent and God says, "I AM THAT I AM", so way, I AM has sent you.

"He's the great I AM."

Sacredness of the Name

Yahweh was considered to be God's personal name. It became so sacred that it was not pronounced. Instead the term *Adonai* was usually substituted, and by the sixth-seventh centuries, the vowels of *Adonai* were combined with the consonants YHWH. That's where the word *Jehovah* came from.

Just Elohim, we also Yahweh being used with other words to make more compound names.

Yahweh Jireh

This literally means "the Lord will provide."

The first time we see it used is by Abraham, when he took Isaac up to be sacrificed. And instead of having to slay his son, God provided a ram.

Abraham called God "Yahweh Jireh."

What has God provided for you?

Yahweh Shalom

This means "the Lord is Peace."

Read Phil. 4:6-7. What do we need to do to experience Yahweh Shalom today?

Though there are many more names to look at, I want to consider one that is special to the New Testament. READ Rom. 8:15 and Gal. 4:6. What is called here?

The term "Abba" was a term of endearment for Fathers. It's similar to how we use the term "Daddy." Think about how special that is in light of all you've studied today.

He is Yahweh, the self-existent God! He is Elohim, the most powerful God! He is El-Shaddai the God Who stands on the mountain as the MOST HIGH!

But you can call Him "Daddy."

How does this truth impact you?