



BIBLE WORD STUDY

But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, *and* there a little; that they might go, and fall backward and be broken, and snared, and taken. (Isaiah 28:13).

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NAME3

The Name of God (3)

Every reference in chapter one made to Deity is “God” and in the KJB you will know that the capitalized “God” is “Elohim”. Apparently, the serpent knew God as “God” the Creator but not by any other name¹ or he deliberately omitted it in his conversation with Eve and used the more general term, “God.”

“God” indicates His essential relation to the *creation* as the Creator. John 1:1 states “the Word was with God, and the Word was God” and “all things were made by him” (1:4) thus relating the Son to the creation. “God” (Creator) is used in contrast to “LORD” (Jehovah) which indicates a covenant relationship. In Genesis 1 and 2 (God) “Elohim” is used up to 2:4 where a combination term “LORD” (Jehovah) is used in conjunction with “God”.

Notice the English type characteristics in the KJB. Elohim is indicated in the KJB as capitalized “G” with lower case letters “od”. We will place a chart later in our study to aid in the KJB’s various case letters that indicate the Hebrew name.

Jehovah: Translated in the KJB as “LORD”, hw\h=y

The name *YHWH* (Tetragrammaton) appears only in the Hebrew Bible. Its precise spelling (Jehovah, Yehovah, Jahweh, Yahweh) and meaning is debated among scholars but the KJB spells and defines it. Whereas “God” relates as Creator of mankind, “Jehovah” relates to covenant relationships. This is God’s personal name by which He is revealed specifically to His chosen people. We noted above the first appearance in the biblical record is Gen 2:4: “These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.” Adam *possibly* knew Him by this from the beginning. Seth called his son *Enosh* (a weak and dependent creature) and began to call upon the name of “the LORD” (Genesis 4:26).

¹ The reader of Genesis sees “LORD” because by inspiration God reveals Himself in the Bible text *written after the event*. Eve and the serpent refer to “God” but God is not known by men as “Jehovah” until 4:1 where Eve says she has gotten a man “from the LORD” (Jehovah). The question is, how did she know it there? God must have revealed Himself as LORD to Adam and Eve prior to Genesis 4:1. In Genesis 4:26 men begin “to call upon the name of the LORD” (Jehovah).

God promised national blessings (Genesis 12:1-4) to Abraham as “the LORD” and Abraham “buildded an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD” in Genesis 12:8. In Genesis 21:33, the *Divine* definition is given: “And Abraham planted a grove in Beer-sheba, and called there on the name of the LORD, the everlasting God.”

To Moses in Exodus 3, God explained that He was not only the "God who exists" but “I AM THAT I AM.” The Hebrew root “to be” is repeated and translated as eternal or self-existent and is set off by all capital letters in bold type.

14 And God (Elohim) said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

15 And God (Elohim) said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey. (Exodus 3:14-17).

. So God explained the meaning of "I am who I am" Ex 3:14. He spoke to the fathers as YHWH, but the promised deliverance and, therefore, the fuller significance or experienced meaning of His name were unknown to them Ex 6:2-8.

(from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, Copyright (c)1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers)

Genesis 2

4 These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD (**Jehovah**) God (**Elohim**) made the earth and the heavens,

5 And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD (**Jehovah**) God (**Elohim**) had not caused

The reader can look at the rest of the verses where LORD and God occur and they are consistent with the above.

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Dave Reese

PO Box 4574

Beeville TX 78104