

## NAMES

- **INTRO:** In our modern society, many people don't give much credence to the power of a name. We tend to name children after a fond relative, a trendy name we've heard, or even a favorite athlete or entertainer – often without much regard for the meaning of that name. Conversely, the bible teaches us a profound lesson about the power of a name. After God creates the first man, he puts him in the garden, but he doesn't remain nameless. He calls him Adam – meaning Son of the Earth or Ground. He then gives Adam the task of naming all the animals. Why? Because names are tied to identity and authority. Jacob, whose name meant deceiver and trickster, had an encounter with God and his name was changed to Israel, meaning one who contends with God. Abram – or high father – had a name change at 99 years of age to Abraham – the father of a great multitude. And ironically (or not) his 24-year-old prayer request was answered within one year. Names are Important. What we call a person, a thing, a situation, a condition, a status, matters to God and it should matter to us. Even what we call God matters. He is so beyond amazing and surpasses awesomeness, that there is no one name that describes His sheer perfection. Instead, there are several names by which He calls Himself and a host of names His people have called Him. Each name reveals a different thread of His power, a different bent of His authority, and a different side of His character. We need to know God by His names, because it reminds us that no matter what situation we face, HE IS THE I AM who is qualified to see us through to victory. And the beauty of it all is that all His names are summed up in the most marvelous name of all – JESUS!!

### Week #1 – Yahweh

- Yahweh is the name for the God of the Israelites, representing the biblical pronunciation of **YHWH**, the Hebrew name revealed to Moses in the book of Exodus. The name YHWH, consisting of the sequence of Hebrew consonants **Yod, Heh, Waw, and Heh**, is known as the **TETRAGRAMMATON**.
- **Exodus 3:11 – 15 (NLT)** *But Moses protested to God, “Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?”* <sup>12</sup> *God answered, “I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain.”* <sup>13</sup> *But Moses protested, “If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ they will ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what should I tell them?”* <sup>14</sup> *God replied to Moses, “I AM Who I AM. Say this to the people of Israel: I AM has sent me to you.”* <sup>15</sup> *God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: Yahweh, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you. This is my ETERNAL NAME, my name to remember for all generations.*
- *Yahweh – The Eternally Self Existent One.*
- God was saying to Moses, *“I was here long before you or Pharaoh and I will be here long after you both are gone. I AM!!”*

### **Yahweh is ETERNAL**

- **Isaiah 43:10 (GNT)** – *“People of Israel, you are my witnesses; I chose you to be my servant, so that you would know me and believe in me and understand that I AM THE ONLY GOD. Besides me there is no other god; there never was and never will be.*

- **QUOTE:** *God was here, waiting with a solution long before we ever knew we even had a problem.*
- We Must Develop a YAHWEH (Eternal) Perspective!!
- **II Corinthians 4:16 – 18 (MSG)** *So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without his unfolding grace. These hard times are small potatoes compared to the coming good times, the lavish celebration prepared for us. There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever.*
- **QUOTE:** *Yahweh is the Eternal One. He can heal our past, stabilize our present, and secure our future.*
- We must learn to trust that His plan for our lives is ETERNAL, not TEMPORAL.

### **Yahweh is SELF EXISTENT**

- **Isaiah 44:24 (MSG)** – *God, your Redeemer, who shaped your life in your mother's womb, says: "I am God. I made all that is. With NO HELP from you I spread out the skies and laid out the earth."*
- We can never get to the place where we think God's plan won't go on if we say no to it.
- **Acts 17:24, 25 (GNT)** – *God, who made the world and everything in it, is Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made by human hands. <sup>25</sup> Nor does he need anything that we can supply by working for him, since it is he himself who gives life and breath and everything else to everyone.*
- HE IS THE SELF EXISTENT ONE!!

### **Yahweh is INCOMPARABLE**

- *Incomparable - without an equal in quality or extent; matchless.*
- There really is ONLY ONE Who has No Rival and has No Equal!!
- **Psalms 89:6 – 18 (NLT)** *For who in all of heaven can compare with the Lord? What mightiest angel is anything like the Lord? <sup>7</sup> The highest angelic powers stand in awe of God. He is far more awesome than all who surround his throne. <sup>8</sup> O Lord God of Heaven's Armies! Where is there anyone as mighty as you, O Lord? You are entirely faithful. <sup>9</sup> You rule the oceans. You subdue their storm-tossed waves.*

*<sup>10</sup> You crushed the great sea monster.<sup>[b]</sup> You scattered your enemies with your mighty arm. <sup>11</sup> The heavens are yours, and the earth is yours; everything in the world is yours—you created it all. <sup>12</sup> You created north and south. Mount Tabor and Mount Hermon praise your name. <sup>13</sup> Powerful is your arm! Strong is your hand! Your right hand is lifted high in glorious strength. <sup>14</sup> Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants.*

*<sup>15</sup> Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship, for they will walk in the light of your presence, Lord. <sup>16</sup> They rejoice all day long in your wonderful reputation. They exult in your righteousness. <sup>17</sup> You are their glorious strength. It pleases you to make us strong. <sup>18</sup> Yes, our protection comes from the Lord, and he, the Holy One of Israel, has given us our king.*