

List of the Names and Titles of God

Here's a fairly comprehensive list of the names of God grouped according to the chapter classification of names in *Names and Titles of God* (JesusWalk, 2010), by Dr. Ralph F. Wilson. These names focus primarily on the names of the Father. Names of Jesus will be treated separately. You'll observe a bit of overlap from one list to another due to differences in translations as well as titles that belong in more than one category.

1. The Exalted God

God ('El, 'Elohim)
 Most High God ('El 'Elyon)
 Most High
 Highest
 God of Gods, Lord of lords
 King of kings
 High and Lofty One
 My Glory
 Pride of Jacob
 King of Glory
 Father of Glory
 Glory of Israel/Strength of Israel
 Light of Israel

2. The God of Might

Almighty God ('El Shaddai)
 The Almighty (Shaddai)
 The LORD of Hosts (Yahweh-Sabaoth)
 Commander of the Army of the LORD
 Man of War (Warrior)
 Mighty Warrior (Dread Champion)
 Mighty One of Jacob
 Great and Awesome God
 My Strength
 The LORD Our Banner (Yahweh-nissi)

3. The Eternal God

I AM THAT I AM
 Yahweh (older pronunciation Jehovah)
 Yah
 LORD
 Everlasting God, Eternal God ('El 'Olam)
 Everlasting Father
 Rock Eternal

One Who Inhabits Eternity
 Ancient of Days
 The First and the Last
 The Alpha and the Omega
 Who Is and Who Was
 and Who Is to Come
 One Who Lives Forever
 Living God

4. God our Creator

Architect
 Builder
 Builder of All things
 Builder of Jerusalem
 Creator
 Creator of heaven and earth
 Creator of the ends of the earth
 Israel's Creator
 Faithful Creator
 Father of Lights
 Former of All Things
 God of All the Earth
 God of heaven
 God of heaven and earth
 King of heaven
 Lord of heaven and earth
 Maker
 Maker of heaven and earth
 My Maker
 Potter

5. The Holy and Righteous One

Avenger
 Consuming Fire
 Fear of Isaac or Awesome One of Isaac
 Father of the Fatherless/Orphans

Glory/Strength of Israel
 Helper of the Fatherless
 Holy
 Holy Father
 Holy LORD God/Holy God
 Holy One
 Holy One of Israel
 Home of Justice, True Pasture
 Judge
 Judge of All
 Judge of All the Earth
 Judge of the Earth
 Just and Mighty One
 Lawgiver
 Light of Israel
 Protector/Defender of Widows
 Righteous Father
 Righteous Judge
 Righteous One
 The LORD our Righteousness
 (*Yahweh-Tsidkenu*)
 The LORD Who Sanctifies You
 (*Yahweh-M'Kaddesh*)
 Upright One
 Wonderful

6. God Our Lord and King

Eternal King
 Great King
 God of gods
 Jacob's King
 King (*melek*)
 King and God
 King Eternal, Immortal, Invisible
 King of All the Earth
 King of Glory
 King of Heaven
 King of Israel
 King of Kings
 King of the Nations, King of Saints,
 King of the Ages
 King Over Jeshurun
 King Over the Whole Earth
 King, the LORD of hosts
 Lord (*adonai, kyrios*)
 Lord GOD, Sovereign LORD

Lord of All the Earth
 Lord of Heaven
 Lord of Heaven and Earth
 Lord of Kings
 Lord of Lords
 Lord, the LORD of Hosts
 Majesty in the Heavens
 Majesty on High
 My God and King
 My God the King
 My King and My God
 My King from of Old
 Prince (*Šar*)
 Ruler of All Things
 Ruler, Sovereign, Potentate
 Sovereign
 Sovereign Lord
 Sovereign Lord (*despotēs*)
 The LORD, the King

7. God Our Fortress and Protector

Buckler
 Dwelling Place
 Fortress
 Glorious Sword
 Helper
 Hiding Place
 High Tower
 Horn of My Salvation
 Keeper
 Lifter Up of My Head
 My Glory
 My Song
 My Strength
 Refuge
 Rock
 Rock Eternal
 Rock of Israel
 Rock of Refuge
 Shade
 Shelter
 Shield
 Strength of His People
 Strong Fortress
 Strong Refuge
 Strong Tower

Stronghold
 Stronghold of My Life
 Very Great Reward

8. The Lord Our Provider and Shepherd

Cup
 Everlasting Light
 God of Bethel
 God of Seeing (*El-roi*)
 Healer
 Help
 Help/Strength
 Helper
 Hope
 Hope of Israel
 Hope of their Fathers
 Light
 Portion
 Portion of Jacob
 Portion of my Inheritance
 Shepherd
 Shepherd of Israel
 Song
 Spring of Living Water,
 Fountain of Living Water
 Sun
 Sustainer of my Soul, Upholder of My Life
 The LORD is There (*Yahweh-Shammah*)
 True Pasture
 Yahweh Provides
 (*Yahweh-yir'eh, Jehovah-jireh*)

9. Abba, Father

Abba
 Bridegroom
 El-Elohe Israel
 Everlasting Father
 Father
 Father in Heaven
 Father of Compassion
 Father of Glory
 Father of Lights
 Father of Spirits
 Glorious Father
 God and Father
 God and Father of All

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
 God of Abraham
 God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
 God of Israel
 God of Our Fathers
 God of Your Fathers
 God our Father
 God the Father
 Godhead/Deity/Divine Being/Divinity
 Heavenly Father
 Holy Father
 Husband
 Jealous
 Jealous and Avenging God
 Jealous God
 Lord and Father

10. The God of All Grace

Compassionate and Gracious God
 Faithful God, God of Truth
 Father of Compassion
 Forgiving God
 God of All Comfort
 God of All Grace
 God of Hope
 God of Love and Peace
 God of Steadfastness and Encouragement
 Gracious God and Merciful,
 Gracious and Compassionate God
 Loving God
 True God

11. God Our Savior and Redeemer

Deliverer
 God of Peace
 God our/my Savior,
 God of our/my salvation
 Great God and Savior
 Horn of My Salvation
 Lord my Savior
 Prince of Peace
 Redeemer, Kinsman-Redeemer
 Rock His Savior
 Rock of My Salvation
 Savior
 Savior of All Men

Savior of Israel

Strong Deliverer

The LORD Is Peace

(Jehovah-Shalom, Yahweh-Shalom)

Appendix 2: Participant Handouts

These notes are designed to be copied and distributed to each person in the group or class. There is no charge for copying these handouts for members of your local group.

1. Most High God (*'El 'Elyon*)
2. God of Might (*'El Shaddai*)
3. Yahweh, I AM, the Eternal God (*'El 'Olam*)
4. God Our Creator
5. The Holy and Righteous One
6. God Our Lord and King
7. God our Fortress and Protector
8. The Lord Our Provider and Shepherd
9. Abba, Father
10. The God of All Grace
11. God Our Savior and Redeemer

1. God Most High (*‘EI ‘Elyon*), the Exalted God

Polytheism vs. Monotheism

Mesopotamian Pantheon of Gods

Abraham’s Religion

EI – “strong, power”

Elohim – plural form, used particularly of Israel’s God. Genesis 1:26; Isaiah 6:8. Plural of majesty, plural of deliberation, or perhaps plural of fullness or duality within the Godhead.

The Most High God (*EI Elyon*), Genesis 14:17-24

Q1. (Genesis 14:19, 20, 22) What did Abraham and Melchizedek seem to believe in common about God Most High?

Q2. Meditate on the title “Most High.” What does it mean to you? How do you or will you incorporate it in your worship?

Q3. Meditate on the phrase “High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy....” (Isaiah 57:15, RSV). What do you learn about God from this phrase? How should this affect your outlook on life, your way of conducting yourself?

Q4. Meditate on the titles “King of Glory” (Psalm 24:7-10) and “Father of glory” (Ephesians 1:17). What do they tell us about God? How should they affect our attitudes as we worship God? According to 2 Corinthians 2:18, how does God’s glory come to fill our lives?

2. The God of Might (*'El Shaddai*)

'El Shaddai, God Almighty

Shadday from *shādād*, “to destroy, overpower” > “Almighty One”. 41X in the OT, 9X in the NT

Genesis 17:1-2; 35:11

Lord of Hosts (*Yahweh-Sabaoth*)

Sebā'ōt, “armies, hosts” or a technical term > “Lord Almighty” (NIV). God as a mighty war commander, able to bring to bear innumerable hosts or armies wherever and whenever he desires. 250X in the OT.

Read (not out of the NIV, which translates this important title, “Lord Almighty”): Genesis 32:1-2; 1 Kings 22:19; Luke 2:13; Psalm 24:7-10; Isaiah 13:4-5; 1 Samuel 17:45.

Commander of the Army of Yahweh (Joshua 5:13-6:2)

Q1. (Joshua 5:13-15) Why did the Commander say he was on neither side? What is the significance of this? What did Joshua feel like during this encounter? How did he feel after this encounter?

The Lord's Army around Elisha at Dothan (2 Kings 6:13-17)

Q2. (2 Kings 6:13-17) Why was Elisha's servant afraid? What was the difference between Elisha and his servant? What does it take for our eyes to be opened? How can 1 John 4:4 strengthen you in your spiritual battle?

The Host of Heaven at Jesus' Death (Matthew 26:53)

Q3. (Matthew 26:53) Why did Jesus *not* call on the heavenly host in the Garden of Gethsemane? What happens when does he *does* call on the heavenly hosts? (Revelation 19:11-16)

Mighty Warrior

Several passages speak of God as a “mighty man of valor,” a “mighty warrior.” Read: Exodus 15:3; Jeremiah 20:11a; Psalm 24:8.

Mighty One of Jacob

Read: Genesis 49:25; Isaiah 1:24; Isaiah 49:26b; Deuteronomy 7:21.

The Lord our Banner (*Yahweh-nissi*, Exodus 17:9-16)

Nēs (*nissi* is the first person possessive, “my banner”) is apparently derived from a root meaning “raised, displayed, prominent.” It means “signal pole, standard, ensign, banner, sign” or signal pole used in war to signal the troops and rally them in battle.

Q4. (Exodus 17:9-16) In what sense was Moses' rod like a signal pole in this battle? In what sense is the Lord our banner in the battles we face?

Twin Applications

The _____ is the _____.

We must prepare to _____ in the _____.

The Battle is the Lord's

Read: 1 Samuel 17:47; 2 Chronicles 20:15b; 2 Chronicles 32:8; Psalm 44:4-7a; Proverbs 21:31; 1 Samuel 14:6; Hosea 1:7

Q5. How should the knowledge that the battle is the Lord's affect the way we approach life? In what way do both timidity and brashness get it wrong? Are there any instances in which the Lord will not fight our battles?

Christian Response to the Mighty Warrior

Read: Luke 22:46; 1 Timothy 6:12; 2 Timothy 4:7; 2:3-4; 2 Corinthians 6:7;10:3-4; Ephesians 6:11-17; Romans 13:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:8.

3. Yahweh, I AM, the Eternal God (*'El 'Olam*)

Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1-15)

I AM THAT I AM (Exodus 3:14), Verb *hāyā*, "to be"

I AM WHO I AM "He who is," the "Self-Existent One"

I WILL BE WHO I WILL BE "He who will continue to be" (present with his people).

"I am the **Alpha and the Omega**," says the Lord God, "**who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.**" (Revelation 1:8)

"I tell you the truth, before Abraham was born, **I am!**" (John 8:58).

Yahweh is based on the verb "to be."

Q1. (Exodus 3:1-15) What does God's name Yahweh reveal about his person and his power? How would an understanding of Yahweh's name contrast him with the idols worshipped by the Egyptians?

Pronunciation of Yahweh vs. Jehovah

Five stages in shift from Yahweh to Jehovah

1. Substitution of Adonai for YHWH
2. Vowel pointing to indicate pronunciation
3. Vowel points for Adonai in YHWH

Presumed correct vowel pointing for Yahweh **YaHWeH**

Vowel pointing for Adonai (inserted into the Tetragrammaton) **YeHoWaH**

4. Shift in Latin and some European languages from I and Y to J

Iehouah > Jehouah

Iesus > Jesus

5. Shift in pronunciation of the J sound from soft to hard

The Everlasting, Eternal God (*'El 'Olam*)

Gen 21:33; Is 40:28; Jer 10:10; Deut 33:27; Ps 90:2; Rom 16:26; 1 Tim 1:17

"For thus says the high and lofty **one who inhabits eternity** (*'ad*), whose name is Holy..." (Isaiah 57:15, RSV).

Q2. (Isaiah 57:15) What do you think it is like to "inhabit eternity"? What will it be like when you inhabit eternity with the Eternal God, seated with Christ Jesus in heavenly places? What emotions does this inspire in you?

The Ancient of Days (Dan 7:9, 13, 22)

The First and the Last

Is 41:4; 44:6; 48:12; Rev 1:8.

Q3. (Isaiah 44:6; Revelation 1:8) What does the idea of "first" and "last" tell you about God? How does Revelation 1:8 relate to God's revelation to Moses, "I AM THAT I AM"?

The One Who Lives for Ever (Dan 4:34)

The Living God

Deut 5:26; 1 Sam 17:26; Ps 42:3; 84:2

Hosea 1:10 > Romans 9:26; Matthew 16:16; Heb 10:31

Q4. (1 Samuel 17:26, 36; Hebrews 10:31) How do you think David's understanding of the Living God enabled him to challenge Goliath? Read Hebrews 10:31 in context. Why should the Living God inspire fear and dread?

4. God Our Creator

Isaiah 45:5-12 Potter and Clay

Read a Creation passage Isaiah 45:5-12

- In verse 7, in what sense does God create both prosperity and disaster (NIV), weal and woe (NRSV), peace and evil (KJV)? What does this tell us about God's power in creation and today?
- What does verse 8 mean that the Lord created righteousness? What does this say about creation and our lives today?
- In verse 9-10, the analogy of the Potter and clay is used. What point is God making in these verses? What implications should this have for us? (See also Romans 9:20-21 which quotes this.)

Q1. (Isaiah 45:9-12) Why is it ridiculous for a pot to second-guess the Potter? How do we Christians do this? What is a better attitude and behavior before our Creator?

Genesis 2:7 has hints of the Potter, too.

Creator, Builder, Architect, and Maker

Read out loud the following passages:

Creator: Isaiah 40:28; Ecclesiastes 12:1a; Romans 1:25; Colossians 3:10; 1 Peter 4:19

Architect and Builder: Hebrews 3:4; 11:10.

Maker: Psalm 124:8; Isaiah 54:5; Jeremiah 10:16.

Q2. What inherent rights does a Potter, Creator, or Maker have over what he has created? How should that effect our lives, our self-image, our sense of purpose?

A Psalm of Creation and Praise (Psalm 95)

Q3. (Psalm 95:1-7) How many names, titles, and metaphors of God can you find in this passage, both explicit and implicit? What does the Psalmist call on us to do in response to God revealed in his Names? Why are these actions appropriate?

God of Heaven

Jonah 1:9; Nehemiah 1:4; Genesis 24:3

Other Creation Titles and Metaphors

Father of Lights (James 1:17)

God of all the earth (Isaiah 54:5)

Gardener, Vinegrower, Husbandman (John 15:1-2)

Creator of the Ends of the Earth (Isaiah 40:12-15, 21-31)

Read this passage aloud.

Q4. (Isaiah 40:21-31). In this passage on the "Creator of the ends of the earth," which words are repeated in verses 28-31. What application are we disciples to derive from this passage so that we might understand God's might as Creator?

5. The Holy and Righteous One

Holiness: set apart, consecrated, dedicated to God

Righteousness: conformity to an ethical or moral standard.

Isaiah 6:1-8

Q1. (Isaiah 6:1-8) How does a realization of God's holiness affect Isaiah? Why is Isaiah afraid? How does God make Isaiah holy? What is the symbolism of the coal from the altar? Now made holy – dedicated to God – how does Isaiah respond to God?

The Holy One of Israel

Isaiah 57:15; 17:7; 43:15

The Righteous One

Proverbs 21:12 (NRSV), Isaiah 24:16a (NIV)

Righteous Father (John 17:25), Holy Father (John 17:11)

The Just and Mighty One (Job 34:17)

The Upright One (Isaiah 26:7). *yāshār*, "(up)-right." The verb means literally, "to go straight or direct in the way."

Q2. If we believe that truth and morality are all relative to one's culture, how can we know and understand the Righteous and Upright God? Extra credit for present-day evangelists: How can we declare God and his Son Jesus Christ in a relativistic world? What is an effective approach?

The LORD our Righteousness (*Yahweh-Tsidkenu*), Jeremiah 23:5-6

The LORD Who Sanctifies You (*Yahweh-M'Kaddesh*), Leviticus 20:7-8

Yahweh Our Lawgiver and Judge

Isaiah 33:22, James 4:12, 2 Timothy 4:8, Genesis 18:25, Hebrews 12:23;

Protector of Widows, Helper of the Fatherless

Psalms 68:5 (NRSV), Psalm 10:14

Q3. (Psalm 68:5) Since our God is the Helper of the Fatherless and the Protector of Widows – that is, the poorest and weakest of society – what does this say about a Christian's commitment to social justice in our communities? How should it affect our actions?

Vengeance and Justice

Vengeance: "punishment inflicted in retaliation for an injury or offense."

Revenge: "an act or instance of retaliating in order to get even."

Romans 12:19 quoting Deut 32:35

Eye for an eye, Exodus 21:24

What is your understanding of prison?

Rehabilitation

Protection of society

Punishment

Deterrence

Justice vs. Mercy

What is the difference between justice and mercy?

Isaiah 53:5, 12; Mark 10:45; 1 Peter 2:24

God Our Avenger

Psalm 99:8 (NRSV)

Q4. Define “justice,” “vengeance,” and “mercy.” Can a Holy and Righteous God justly forgive sins without punishing them? What is the significance of the cross in God’s righteousness?

The Awe-Inspiring God

Gen 31:42; Judges 13:18-19a (RSV)

God of Glory and Light

1 Samuel 15:29; Psalm 3:3; Isaiah 10:17

6. God Our Lord and King

Song of Moses: "The LORD will reign for ever and ever." (Exodus 15:18)

Symbols of Kingship in the Exodus

Suzerain-Vassal Treaty format in the Covenant at Sinai

Ark as Throne, Tabernacle as Palace

"Enthroned between the cherubim...." (Psalm 99:1-5)

Tribute and Tithes for the King

Q1. Read 1 Samuel 8:15 and Malachi 3:8-10. How did tithing relate to a person's acceptance of God being their King in the Old Testament? How about for those of us who live under the New Covenant? What place does tithing have for us?

God Our King in Praise and Prophecy

Psalm 5:2; 29:10; 47:2, 6-8; 74:12; 95:3; 98:6; 145:1

Jeremiah 10:7, 10; Zephaniah 3:15; Zechariah 14:9, 1 Timothy 1:17

Appointing a King to Rule for Yahweh (1 Samuel 8)

1 Samuel 8:5-7; 2 Chronicles 9:8

Democracy and the Concept of King

Q2. What are the personal implications of Yahweh being your King and of Jesus being the Messiah sent from God? What are the advantages of being the subject of Yahweh as King? What does it mean for you to submit to the King on an everyday basis? How does a person reject Yahweh from being King over him or her?

The King, Yahweh of Hosts

Psalm 24:10; Isaiah 6:5

King of Kings

1 Timothy 6:15; Romans 13:1-7

Q3. What are the implications for governments that Yahweh is the King of kings and Lord of lords? What are the implications of removing the name of "God" from a nation's currency and pledges, and ardently secularizing national life? Where does that put a nation with regard to God the King?

The Lord ('*Adōnāy*)

"Lord, master, owner," and sometimes "husband." It is a term for a person who deserves respect for his position or title.

Psalm 110:1; Psalm 8:9

Lord in the New Testament (*kyrios*)

In Greek *kyrios* translates YHWH, so in translation both “LORD” and “Lord” appears as “Lord” without distinction.

Q4. What is the significance of the confession “Jesus is Lord”? Why is this necessary for salvation, according to Romans 10:9?

The Kingdom of God is at Hand**Ruler, Sovereign, Potentate, Prince, Majesty on High**

1 Timothy 6:15; Revelation 6:10; 1 Chronicles 29:12; Psalm 22:28 (KJV); Revelation 15:3 (NRSV “King of the nations”); Hebrews 1:3; 8:1.

Living as Subjects of the King

7. God our Fortress and Protector

Refuge and Fortress Words

Refuge, fortress, *machseh* – place of refuge, shelter

Fortress, *metsûdâ*, fastness, stronghold, fortress (Masada)

Strong tower, *migdâl*, great or tall place + 'ôz, strong

Stronghold, high tower, *mişgâb*, high place, refuge.

Refuge, stronghold, *mā'ôz*, place of strength, of safety

Refuge, *mānôs*, place of escape

Refuge, strong habitation, *mā'ôn*, place of habitation, dwelling

Rock, Shade, Hiding Place Words

Rock, *tsûr*, massive rock

Rock, *sela'*, split rock, cleft rock

Hiding place, *seter*, hiding place

Shadow, *tsel*, shade, shadow

Armament Words

Shield, *māgēn*, smaller, round shield

Shield, *sinnâ*, large rectangular shield that covered the body

Buckler, *sōchērā*, probably a small shield

Sword

Psalm of God's Protection (Psalm 91, NIV)

¹ He who dwells in the _____ of the Most High
will rest in the _____ of the Almighty.

² I will say of the LORD, "He is my _____ and my _____,
my God, in whom I trust."

³ Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare
and from the deadly pestilence.

⁴ He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his _____ you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your _____ and _____.

⁵ You will not fear the terror of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,

⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at midday.

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.

⁸ You will only observe with your eyes
and see the punishment of the wicked.

⁹ If you make the Most High your _____ –
even the LORD, who is my _____ –

¹⁰ then no harm will – befall you,
no disaster will come near your tent.

- ¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;
- ¹² they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.
- ¹³ You will tread upon the lion and the cobra;
you will trample the great lion and the serpent.
- ¹⁴ "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will _____ him;
I will _____ him, for he acknowledges my name.
- ¹⁵ He will call upon me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble,
I will deliver him and honor him.
- ¹⁶ With long life will I satisfy him
and show him my salvation."

Q1. (Psalm 91) What is the protected one required to do in times of danger (verses 1-2, 9).
What metaphors are used of God's protection in this psalm?

God our Shield

Genesis 15:1, Deuteronomy 33:29; Psalm 3:3

Q2. (Psalm 3:3) In what ways is God a shield? In what ways is he our glory? In what ways is he "the lifter up of my head"? What does this mean about God? About us?

God our Strength

Psalm 27:1; 28:7-8; 118:14; Jeremiah 16:19a

God our Rock

2 Samuel 22:2; Psalm 31: 2-3; 61:2-3; 144:1-2; Isaiah 26:4; 51:1; Nahum 1:7

Q3. In what ways is God a Rock in the above verses? What functions does a rock perform in Palestine?

God our Keeper

Q4. (Psalm 121). What does it mean that God is our Keeper? In what ways does he "keep" or "guard" us?

Needing a Crutch

Eternal Life – our Final Bastion

8. The Lord Our Provider and Shepherd

God Tests Abraham on Mt. Moriah (Genesis 22:1-14)

The LORD Will Provide (*Yahweh-yir'eh*, Genesis 22:13-14)

Matthew 6:33; Philippians 4:19.

Q1. (Genesis 22:1-14) Do you think Abraham was really expecting God to provide a sacrifice, or that was just what he told Isaac? What support do you have for your position? Did you ever receive a last-minute provision from God? In what circumstances can we expect God to supply our needs? Any conditions?

The Analogy of the Shepherd

L _____ the sheep

P _____ the sheep

H _____ the sheep

R _____ the lost sheep

God our Shepherd

Genesis 48:15; Isaiah 40:11; Psalm 80:1; Jeremiah 50:7

The LORD our Shepherd (*Yahweh-rohi*, Psalm 23)

Q2. (Psalm 23) Can you remember any times when God has cared for you as a Shepherd – in times of blessing and in times of trouble? What are you facing right now where you realize your need to rely on God as your Shepherd?

God of Seeing (*El-roi*)

Genesis 16:3

“Seeing” is the noun *ro’î*, “looking, seeing, sight.”

The LORD Your Healer (*Yahweh-rapha*)

Exodus 15:26; 23:25; Psalm 103:3; 147:3

God our Light and Sun

Psalm 84:11; 27:1; Isaiah 60:19; Revelation 21:23

Other Provider Metaphors for God

Ezekiel 48:35; Exodus 15:2; Psalm 118:14; Isaiah 12:2; Genesis 31:13; 35:7

The LORD is my Portion

Psalm 73:26; Jeremiah 10:16; Numbers 18:20; Deuteronomy 32:9; Psalm 16:5

The Lord my Helper

Hebrews 13:6; Psalm 40:17; 22:19; 54:4

Q3. Why do we sometimes resist calling on God to be our Helper? Why do we try to do it ourselves first? What is required of us if God is to be a Helper and Shepherd to us?

Hope of Israel

Jeremiah 14:8; 50:7

The Spring of Living Water

Jeremiah 17:13; 2:13

Q4. Meditate on the concept of God as a Spring of Living Water or a Fountain of Living Water for you. What does this say about God? About your thirst? About your future?

9. Abba, Father

The Role of Father in Bible Times

“In the patriarchal societies of antiquity, the father figure is endowed with two particular characteristics. On the one hand, the father rules as head of the household and the person to whom most respect is due, having absolute authority over his family. On the other hand, he has the responsibility of guarding, supporting, and helping the other members. Both these characteristics are also present when a deity is described or addressed as father.” – Otfried Hofius

God as Father in the Old Testament

Deuteronomy 32:6; Isaiah 64:8; Isaiah 9:6

Q1. What does the concept of “father” teach us about God, especially the formal way in which the word is used in the Old Testament? According to the quote from Otfried Hofius above, which two aspects of a father underlie our understanding of Father in the Old Testament? How should they affect our behavior?

Our Heavenly Father

Matthew 5:45; 6:9; 7:11; 10:32-33; 18:14, 19

Intimacy with Abba Father

Abbā' is a word derived from baby-language. As the Rabbis said, a small child “learns to say ‘*abbā'* (daddy) and ‘*immā'* (mummy).”

Mark 14:36; Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6

Reclaiming God as Your ‘*Abbā'*

Q2. How was the intimate way that Jesus taught his disciples about God as “Abba” and “Father” different from the Jews’ understanding of God as Father? How does God as Abba influence your relationship with him?

Jesus’ Teaching about the Father

Matthew 6:6; 10:19-20; 11:25-27; 20:23; Mark 13:32; John 5:16-18; 10:29-31; 16:26-28

God the Father in the Epistles

“Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 1:7)

“Our God and Father” (Galatians 1:4; 1 Thessalonians 1:3; 3:11; James 3:9; Ephesians 4:6)

God the Father (Ephesians 5:20; 6:23; Colossians 3:17; 1 Corinthians 15:24; Jude 1)

The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

2 Corinthians 1:3; 11:31; Ephesians 1:3; 4:6; Romans 15:6; 1 Peter 1:3; Ephesians 1:17; 1 Corinthians 8:6

The Trinity in the New Testament

Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2

Q3. In what sense are Jesus and the Father one? In what way was Jesus distinct from the Father? Is Jesus God in the sense that the Father is God?

The Father and His Children

2 Corinthians 6:18; Ephesians 3:14; Hebrews 12:9; 1 John 3:1

Miscellaneous References to God as Father

Ephesians 1:17; 2 Corinthians 1:3; James 1:17; John 17:11

God our Husband

Isaiah 54:5; Jeremiah 3:14 (NIV); 31:32 (NIV); Isaiah 62:4-5; Revelation 19:9

The Jealous God

Exodus 20:3, 5; 34:14; Joshua 24:19; Nahum 1:2

Q4. In what sense was God the Husband of Israel? What is the New Testament extension of this metaphor? What causes God jealousy?

Christian Feminism and God the Father

Feminine Metaphors for God

Genesis 1:27; Luke 13:34; 15:8-10; Deuteronomy 32:18; Isaiah 42:13-14; 49:15; 66:13; Psalm 123:2; 131:2

Q5. What do we miss in our understanding of God if we remove the metaphor of Father and Son from our church vocabulary? Which feminine metaphors of God especially help you understand God's nature?

God of Your Fathers

Exodus 3:15-16; Deuteronomy 1:11; Genesis 31:42; Exodus 3:6

God of Israel

Genesis 33:20; Exodus 5:1; Ruth 2:12

The Godhead, the Deity

Acts 17:29; Colossians 2:9

Friends of God

2 Chronicles 20:7; James 2:23; John 15:14-15

10. The God of All Grace

Read Exodus 34:1-7

Grace Words

“Compassionate, merciful” is *rachûm*, “compassionate, merciful,” from the root *rācham*, “love deeply, have mercy, be compassionate,” which refers to a deep love (usually of a “superior” for an “inferior”) rooted in some natural bond.

“Gracious” is *channûn*, “gracious,” from the verb *chānan*, “be gracious, to pity,” depicting “a heartfelt response by someone who has something to give to one who has a need.”

“Love” is *chesed*, “kindness, lovingkindness, mercy ... the disposition of one person toward another that surpasses ordinary kindness and friendship; it is the inclination of the heart to express ‘amazing grace’ to the one who is loved.... It is a committed, familial love that is deeper than social expectations, duties, shifting emotions, or what is earned or deserved by the recipient.”

“Faithfulness” is *‘emet*, “firmness, truth, verity.”

Forgiving Wickedness, Rebellion and Sin (Exodus 34:7a)

Q1. Why was God’s willingness to forgive essential to Israel’s survival in the wilderness? Was Israel contrite after turning away from the Lord in Exodus 34? What is so amazing about God’s forgiveness?

Not Clearing the Guilty (Exodus 34:7b)

Faithful God

Deuteronomy 7:9; 32:4; Psalm 31:5; Jeremiah 10:10; 2 Timothy 2:13

Read and sing Lamentations 3:23

Q2. What does faithfulness have to do with trustworthiness and keeping one’s word? What does the Faithful God inspire in you? Why must faithfulness be part of our character as believers?

Forgiving God

Psalm 99:8; Nehemiah 9:17 (NIV); Micah 7:18-19; John 3:16

Loving God

1 John 4:8, 16; Psalm 59:10; 144:2; 2 Corinthians 13:11.

Father of Compassion, Father of Mercies (2 Corinthians 1:3)

Q3. How does God’s steadfast love in the Old Testament relate to his mission of love in John 3:16?

Gracious God

Jonah 4:2, Deuteronomy 4:31; Nehemiah 9:31

The God of all Grace

1 Peter 5:10

“Grace” (*charis*) here means, “a beneficent disposition toward someone, favor, grace, gracious care or help, goodwill.”

Q4. (1 Peter 5:10) How has God shown his grace to you and your family? Why do you think Peter describes him as the God of all grace?

God of Hope and Encouragement

Contrast Romans 15:13 with Ephesians 2:12

Romans 15:5; 2 Corinthians 1:3; Jeremiah 29:11

11. God Our Savior and Redeemer

My Deliverer

Psalm 18:2 = 2 Samuel 22:2-3; Psalm 140:7; 70:5; 40:17; 144:2

The Kinsman-Redeemer

Gā'al means "redeem, ransom, do the part of a kinsman." Example: Boaz in Ruth 1-4.

Redemption from Egypt and Babylon

Exodus 6:6; Micah 4:10; Psalm 19:14; Isaiah 54:5; 63:16; Job 19:25

Jesus Our Ransom and Redeemer

Mark 10:43-45; Philippians 2:6-7; Ephesians 1:7; Hebrews 9:12

Q1. What was the responsibility of the next of kin to someone in his family who was in trouble? How did Jesus play the role of Kinsman-Redeemer for us? What does this say about God's love? What does this say about our worth?

God Our Savior in the Old Testament

Yāsha', (Hiphil) "save, deliver, give victory." The root meaning is "make wide, make sufficient."

Yeshua = Joshua = Jesus (Matthew 1:21)

Psalm 79:9; 25:5; 27:9; 38:22; 42:11; 68:19; Isaiah 45:15; 21b; 62:11.

God Our Savior in the New Testament

Luke 1:47; 1 Timothy 1:1; Titus 1:3; 2:10; and Jude 1:25

1 Timothy 2:3-4; 1 Timothy 4:10; Titus 2:13-14; 3:4-7

Q2. "Save" and "Savior" are used so much in Christian circles that they have become almost jargon words that we don't even think about. What are synonyms for "save" and "Savior"? What does a "Savior" actually do to earn the name?

The Rock and Horn of My Salvation

Psalm 89:26; 95:1; 62:2, 6; Deuteronomy 32:15; Psalm 18:46 = 2 Samuel 22:47; Isaiah 17:10

2 Samuel 22:3 = Psalm 18:2; Luke 1:69

The LORD Is Peace

Judges 6:22-24

The God of Shalom

Shālōm has at its root the idea of "completion and fulfillment, of entering into a state of wholeness and unity, a restored relationship."

Q3. Why did Gideon name the altar "the LORD Is Peace"? In what sense did the Lord offer peace to Gideon?

The Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9:6; 2 Peter 3:13; Isaiah 11:6-9

Q4. What kind of *shalom* will the Prince of Peace bring about in the New Heavens and the New Earth? What do we have to look forward to?

The God of Peace

Romans 15:33; 16:20; Philippians 4:9; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 13:20-21

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