



Jehovah
Yahweh
“I Am”
LORD



Exodus 3:13-15

Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The **God** of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

¹⁴ **God** said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘**I AM** has sent me to you.’”

¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘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,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation.

¹⁶ “Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, ‘The **LORD**, the **God** of your fathers—the **God** of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt.’”

יד וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים אֶל-מֹשֶׁה, אֲהִיָּה אֲנִשׁר אֲהִיָּה;
וַיֹּאמֶר, כֹּה תֹאמַר לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֲהִיָּה, שְׁלַחֲנִי
אֵלֵיכֶם. טו וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד אֱלֹהִים אֶל-מֹשֶׁה, כֹּה-
תֹאמַר אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתֵיכֶם אֱלֹהֵי
אֲבֹרָהִם אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, שְׁלַחֲנִי אֵלֵיכֶם;
זֶה-שְּׁמִי לְעֹלָם, וְזֶה זְכוֹרִי לְדֹר דֹּר.

How the name “Jehovah” developed

- **YHWH**, “I Am” or “I Exist”
- Jews would say, “Adonai” or “Lord.”
- YHWH + vowels of adonai = YaHoWaH
- It came into many languages as Jehovah.
- English Translations write it “**LORD**” in all caps. Used 6,823 times in Old Testament.

The Name Jehovah or LORD

- Genesis 2:4, first appearance: "...the **LORD God** (Yahweh Elohim) made the earth and the heavens..."
- Genesis 4:26: "At that time men began to call on the name of the **LORD** (Yahweh)."
- Exodus 6:2-3: "I am the **LORD** (Yahweh). I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as El-Shaddai, but by my name the **LORD** (Yahweh) I did not make myself known to them."



Meaning of the Name:

Jehovah (Yahweh) is the intimate name of God, and presents God as the eternally existent One who acts in grace to redeem us and relates personally to us.



1. God exists, He alone has real existence

- **"I AM WHO I AM"**
- **His existence is eternal**
- **He is the ever-becoming one: He will be who He will be.**
- **As the eternal God, He is not bound by time. He is always new, relevant, fresh.**

The Rock of Israel:



- “The **LORD** is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer...” Psalm 18:2
- Shade in heat
 - Shelter from cold
 - Security from attack
 - Stability, unlike sand
 - Sustenance, the water came from the rock in the desert



2. God extends, He reaches out to redeem humanity

“I AM has sent me to you”



Jesus said, “Before Abraham was, **I Am.**” (John 8:58)

- The people were ready to stone Him because a mere man could not make such a claim. Jesus was Jehovah in human flesh. (John 8:24,28, *ego eimi*)
- What do you need? Spiritual Food? “**I am** the Living Bread, come down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread he will live forever.” (John 6:51)
- The Light of the Truth? “**I am** the Light of the world, He that follows me will never walk in darkness.” (John 8:12)
- A Way to be Saved? “**I am** the door, if any one enters through me will be saved.” (John 10:9)

Jesus as the I AM: Do you need?

- Someone to love you? “I am the good Shepherd, the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (John 10:11)
- Hope beyond the grave? “I am the resurrection and the life, he who believes in me will live, even though he dies.” (John 11:25)
- A way to the Father? “I am the way, the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)
- Strength to bear fruit for God? “I am the vine, you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, He will bear much fruit.” (John 15:5)

There is Power in the name:

John 18:4-6:

Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who is it you want?”

⁵ “Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied.

“**I am** he,” Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) ⁶ When Jesus said, “**I am** he,” they drew back and fell to the ground.



3. God expresses, He calls us into a meaningful relationship with Him

“I am to be remembered from generation to generation”

A relationship of:

- Intimacy – He calls us to Himself. “The LORD is my shepherd.” Psalm 23:1
- Righteousness – He calls us to be like Him. Jehovah said, “Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy.” (Lev. 19:2)
- Rest and hope and peace: “You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. ⁴Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD is an everlasting rock.” (Isaiah 26:3-4)

The disciple slow to believe



- “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”
- Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God.”
- “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”