



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?”

<sup>14</sup> **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.’”

<sup>15</sup> 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.

<sup>16</sup> “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, אֱהִיָּה אֲנִי אֱהִיָּה;  
וַיֹּאמֶר, כֹּה תֹאמַר לְבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, אֱהִיָּה, שְׁלַחֲנִי  
אֵלֵיכֶם. טו וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד אֱלֹהִים אֶל-מֹשֶׁה, כֹּה-  
תֹאמַר אֶל-בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם אֱלֹהֵי  
אֲבֹרָהִם אֱלֹהֵי יִצְחָק וְאֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב, שְׁלַחֲנִי אֵלֵיכֶם;  
זֶה-שְּׁמִי לְעַלְמִם, 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?”

<sup>5</sup> “Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied.

“**I am** he,” Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup>Trust 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.”