

We can understand a lot about a person by knowing their names and their titles. What are some of the names or titles that identify who you are or what you are like?

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Many people are surprised to find out that the God of the Bible, has many names. There is only one self-existent God creator of heaven and earth- but He has revealed Himself to humankind through various names or titles.

Why study these names for God?

We need light in this spiritually dark world, overshadowed by the effects of rebellion against God. While Jesus is away in another land and we await His return we are to shine brightly as witnesses of the One true God. Our lamps are to bring clarity for us and the world. We can only do this as we reflect the LORD accurately. Of utmost importance is to get a clear view of THE LORD.

So as we study these names let us pray that we tear down in our minds all that is inaccurate and replace it with a clear image of HIM. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

Why should we study and meditate upon with the names of God?

**1. Studying His names reveals His attributes to us.**

We are all born and raised with notions about what God is like. These can be accurate or inaccurate. They could be bringing God into focus and out of focus in our hearts and minds. In addition, They could be providing a clear or blurry picture to others of what He is really like. Knowing what God is really like should be our #1 priority.

How do you think an inaccurate view of God bring increased trouble to our lives?

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Our understanding of who God is and what He is like effects every area of our lives. From how we worship, how we pray, how we handle problems, how we interpret life events. We can only know God in part- for he is incomprehensible. (1 Cor. 13:12)  
But the more we learn of Him- the picture can become clearer.

We at times wonder why our faith can be so weak. We must all ask ourselves: How much effort, compared to other life purposes have we put into knowing God?

Jeremiah 9:23,24; 2 Corinthians 10:17-18

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Resources for this Study:

My Father's Names by Elmer Towns, Regal Books. 1992

LORD, I Want to Know You, Kay Arthur, Waterbrook Press, 2000

2. **Knowing God's names allows us to enjoy more aspects of our relationship with Him.**

Our faith develops deep roots as we grow in our knowledge and faith. Abraham seems to have received more understanding of God through His names throughout His life than any other. God was many things to Abraham, including His friend. James 2:23

A person who is our friend allows us to get to know them. God wants his people, his servants, his children to know Him. And He revealed himself through his names or titles to those he called and who walked with Him.

- a. *Jehovah: LORD*, The self-existent One who reveals Himself. Gen. 13:1-4
- b. *El Elyon*: Most High God, Possessor of Heaven, and Earth. Gen. 14:18-24
- c. *Adonai*: Master or Sovereign Lord, Gen. 15:1-6
- d. *El Shaddai*: Sustainer, Nurturer, Breasted One. Gen. 17:1-7
- e. *El Olam*: The LORD the Eternal God. Genesis 21:32-34
- f. *Jehovah Jireh*: The LORD who Provides. Genesis 22:13-14
- g. *Jehovah Rapah*: The LORD our Healing. Exodus 15:22-27
- h. *Jehovah Nissi*: The LORD our Banner and Protection. Exodus 17:14-15
- i. *Jehovah Shalom*: The LORD our Peace. Judges 6:23-24

3. **His names teach us to look to Him in our own crisis.**

When we are in turmoil or chaos internally. When we are facing crisis- whatever the need we can be reassured as we meditate upon the names of LORD our God that He will answer us when we call. He is the same God today, as He was thousands of years ago! He is also the LORD our Shepherd- *Jehovah Roi*. Psalm 23

Jesus is the good shepherd, we as Christians have been included in His flock! John 10

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