

# STUDY NOTES FROM KAREN HOERDEL'S "HEBREW NAMES OF GOD" TEACHING SERIES

## JEHOVAH

### YHVH ~ YHWH ~ YAWEH

YAHVEH is the most frequently mentioned name in the Bible; used 6823 times.

This is the equivalent in English (with vowel sounds added) of four Hebrew letters: YAD, HAY, VAV, HAY OR YHVH which spell out the name of God. This name may not be pronounced by pious Jews in their reading except paraphrased as ADONAI; or Jews say, HA-SHEM = The Name.

This name is so holy that when writing the Torah scrolls, every time the scribes came to the name YHVH they would stop, take off their clothes, bathe, put on clean clothes and then take up a pen that had never before been used to copy the name - then discard the pen.

After 70 AD the correct pronunciation of YHVH was lost. One way of avoiding God's name from being mispronounced is by writing it:

G\_D or L\_RD.

The Orthodox believe that when Messiah comes He will pronounce it.

In 1518, Anglicized to JEHOVAH in the King James Bible, it is written LORD or GOD, ALL CAPITAL LETTERS.

YHVH is derived from the Hebrew verb "havah" which means, "to be", or "being." This is almost exactly like the Hebrew verb "chavah" which means, "to live" or "life."

Jehovah is the Being who is absolutely self existent - THE ETERNAL ONE. The One Who in Himself possesses essential life and permanent existence. The One who always exists, eternal and unchangeable. The One without beginning and without end. The only uncaused cause. The source of all reality. The Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last.

ISAIAH 41:4; REVELATION 1:11

Jehovah comprises all of the verb "TO BE"; He "IS", He "WAS", He "WILL BE", He "WILL BECOME", the "BECOMING ONE", He will BECOME whatever you need and He will be coming again and He "WILL BE" with us.

EXODUS 3:13-15 - this name is revealed to Moses.

There are three dominant characteristics associated with this name

REVEALING HIS NATURE:

A. RIGHTEOUS and HOLY

Righteousness means purity of heart and life; being and doing right.

Holiness means set apart and separated from all that is sinful or impure or morally imperfect; moral wholeness and perfection.

EXODUS 15:11 - glorious in holiness  
LEVITICUS 19:2 - be holy for I am holy  
PSALM 11:7 - righteous Lord  
EPHESIANS 4:23-32

#### B. JUDGMENT AND JUSTICE; RIGHTEOUS JUDGE

Since the Lord is holy, He hates sin and must judge it.  
He must condemn unrighteousness and punish it.  
He is a dispenser of rewards and punishment:  
ISAIAH 6:5 - Woe is me  
II TIMOTHY 4:1,8  
REVELATION 16:5-7

#### C. LOVE AND MERCY

The Lord hates sin but loves the sinner.  
While His holiness must condemn, His love redeems. He seeks to bring man back to Himself.

EXODUS 34: 5-7 - Moses understood "I AM"  
PSALM 85:10 - Mercy and truth have kissed  
ROMANS 3:25-26 - Justice and mercy meet at the cross  
Jesus is not angry with you.  
His wrath, His judgment for your sin was put upon Jesus.  
Justice and mercy have met.

JOHN 8:58:

"Jesus said unto them, 'Verily, verily I say unto you, before Abraham was, I AM.' They took up stones to cast at Him."

*Hebrew Language - Hebraic Interpretation  
(NUMBERS 6:24-27)  
By Jeff A. Benner*

*The LORD bless you and keep you:  
The LORD make His face to shine upon you,  
And be gracious unto you:  
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you,  
And give you peace.*

*Each Hebrew word behind the English in this passage is filled with images that are lost in the English words. When we examine each of these words from their original contextual meaning the message in the passage comes alive.*

*"YAHWEH (He who exists) will kneel before you presenting gifts and will guard you with a hedge of protection, YAHWEH (He who exists) will illuminate the wholeness of His being toward you bringing order and He will provide you with love, sustenance and friendship, YAHWEH (He who exists) will lift up His wholeness of being and look upon you and He will set in place all you need to be whole and complete."*