



# Teachers' Manual

2004

The Names of God

## LESSON PLAN 4 THE NAMES OF GOD

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to do  
the work of the ministry

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This lesson:

**The Name of Jesus**



*Thy word is a light unto my path*

Unless otherwise noted, scriptures are from the Authorized Version of the Bible. (AV=KJ)

This month we will focus on developing a more personal relationship with God. Because in order for us to grow spiritually we must have a strong, viable relationship with God. This requires us to know God.

Knowing God necessitates us to develop an intimacy with Him through

prayer and studying His word. The depthness of your relationship with God depends solely upon how much you are willing to invest in it. Throughout the bible we are told that God longs to have a relationship with us.

This month we will look at the attributes and characteristics of God as

we move forward in our relationship with Him.

*And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: **but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.***  
Daniel 11:32

## What's In a Name ? - Lessons Preview

*Please read prior to first lesson*

In biblical days personal names were more than labels to distinguish one person from another. Names expressed not only identification, but also attributes. There was significant meaning attached to a name. The names served as an explanation of the character and various attributes a person possessed. Remember what Abigail said about her husband Nabal? "He is just like his name — his name is Fool" (1 Sam 25:25).

God's covenant names reveal His character and His relationship to us in the various areas of our lives. The names or titles given to God in the Bible reveal much about His characteristics - who He is, what He is like, and what He does. When the Bible uses the phrase the "name of God" or "in the name of the Lord" it refers to His total person - all that He is.

There are three main names of God: Jehovah, Adonai, and Elohim. They are indicated throughout the Bible in very unique ways. The word *Jehovah* (*Yahweh* / *I AM*) is often spelled out as Jehovah. It

is also spelled as LORD (all capital letters). Jehovah is the most frequently used name of God in the Bible. It expresses the totality of God and what He is and what He represents. It is in Genesis chapter 3 when God first revealed Himself as "I AM". Because the Hebrews misinterpreted the Commandments in referencing "taking the Lord's name in vain" they feared to pronounce the name of *Yahweh* (Ex. 20:7; Deut. 5:11). Therefore they substituted in text with the word Adonai.

In the Bible *Adonai* is spelled out *Lord*, with the first letter capitalized. **Jehovah** and **Adonai** are both translated in the New Testament Greek and as **Lord** in most English versions of the Bible (see Mark 12:36).

The word *God* is used to represent *Elohim* in our English bibles. You first see reference to Elohim in Genesis 1:1. Jonah and Daniel used Elohim almost exclusively.

### Other Names Referred to as Names of God

Jehovah Nissi - The Lord my banner (actually this was the name of an altar Moses built [Ex. 17:15-16]).

Jehovah Shalom - The Lord send peace. This too was the name of an altar (Judg. 6:24).

Jehovah Jireh - The Lord will provide. (This was the name Abraham gave to the location where God provided a ram in the bush [Gen. 22:14]).

Jehovah Makaddesh—The Lord Sanctifies (this was taken from the statement in Ex. 31:13 when God told Moses 'I am Jehovah who sanctifies.'

There are numerous other names listed today as names of God. This month we will only take the primary ones found in the scriptures to enlighten our understanding of God and who is to us.

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That *men* may know that thou, whose name alone *is* JEHOVAH, *art* the most high over all the earth  
(Ps 83:18). (KJV)

## Studying For Yourself

Below is a list of names and meanings commonly known as the names of God. We invite you to study the scriptures for yourself to see where the names derived from. Although today they are being called the names of God, many of them are actually names of locations and/or altars.

**Elohim** (God) means "might or strong one"; it denotes the power and pre-eminence of God and is especially used in relationship to creation and strength. (Genesis 1: 1; Psalm 68: 1)

**Adonai** (Lord) means "master, sovereign ruler or Lord" and generally denotes the authority and position of God. (Psalm 68: 32; Isaiah 6: 8-11)

**Yahweh or Jehovah** (Lord) means most likely the self-existent one (I am who I am or I am the One who is) and denotes God's personal name and His eternity. It is often used in relationship to God as redeemer and covenant keeper. Yahweh is the most common name for God in the Old Testament. God's personal name was so sacred to most Jews that they feared to write or say it lest they misused it and usually substituted Adonai for Yahweh. Jehovah is an English word created from the other two to stand for God's personal name. (Genesis 2:4; Exodus 3:14; Psalm 68:14)

**El Shaddai** means "God Almighty" and pictures God as the all powerful source of

blessing and comfort. (Genesis 17:1; Exodus 6:3; Psalm 68:14)

**El Elyon** means "God most High" and pictures God's strength and sovereignty. (Genesis 14:18; Psalm 9:2)

**El Roi** means "God who sees" and denotes God's personal care and presence (Genesis 16:13)

**El Olam** means "Everlasting and Eternal God" and pictures God's eternity and infinite strength. (Genesis 21:33; Isaiah 40:28)

The following are the main Old Testament Yahweh/Jehovah **compound names**:

**Yahweh Jireh** means the "Lord provides" and was used by Abraham when God provided a sacrificial lamb instead of Isaac. (Genesis 22:14)

**Yahweh Sabaoth** means the "Lord of hosts" (hosts is sometimes translated almighty or army) and pictures God as the commander of the heavenly armies. (Joshua 5:14; I Samuel 1:3; Psalm

24:10)

**Yahweh Rophe** (or Rapha) means the "Lord who heals" and denotes the physical and spiritual healing power of God. (Exodus 15:26)

**Yahweh Shalom** means the "Lord is peace" and denotes the lack of tension, conflict and strife in God. (Judges 6:24)

**Yehweh Nissi** means the "Lord is my banner" and signifies that the battle is the Lord's. (Exodus 17:15)

**Yahweh Tsidkenu** means the "Lord our righteousness" and signifies God as the only source of true righteousness. (Jeremiah 23:6)

**Yahweh Maccaddeschem** means the "Lord our sanctifier" (or the Lord who makes you holy) and signifies that God is the one who sets people apart and makes them holy. (Exodus 31:13; Leviticus 20:8)

**Yahweh Raah** (rohi) means the "Lord our Shepherd" and denotes God's loving care, protection and provision for His people. (Psalm 23:1)

## The Name of Jesus

**Memory Verse:** Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am ( John 8:58).

**Lesson:** John 1:1-3; 16:23-24; 26-27

Read John 1; 16

### Scripture Lesson Text

**John 1:1** ¶ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**2 The same was in the beginning with God.**

**3** All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

**John 16:23** ¶ And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give *it* you.

**24** Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

**26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:**

**27** For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

### *Lesson Exposition*

In the New Testament God reveals His son Jesus. Throughout the Old Testament we see shadows of things to come, but in the New Testament God manifested what had been prophesied (Isa. 9; 40:3; Jhn. 3:3).

In Matthew 1:21 Joseph was told that Mary would bring forth a son and she was to name him Jesus (Savior) because He will save His people from their sins. Even Jesus' name represented His purpose in

the earth.

As we will study today, it is imperative we understand that Jesus is one with the Father. As it written in Philippians 2:6-7-11:

**6** Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

**7** But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

**8** And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

**9** Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

**10** That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

**11** And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

#### **The Word Made Flesh** John 1:1-3

*Verses 1-3 - "In the beginning" was before creation, before time. It de-*

(cont)

notes the timelessness of Jesus. Recall John 17:5: *And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self, with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.*

There is no doubt that by “Word” (*Logos*) is meant Jesus Christ. It is not referencing an attribute of God but a real subsistence, for it is said that the *Logos* was made *flesh*—that is, became a man. Revelation 19:13 confirms this: *“And he (Jesus) was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God.”*

In John chapter 8 when the Pharisees were questioning Jesus’ claim to be the Messiah, they compared Him to Abraham by saying that He was not greater than Abraham. They further questioned Jesus’ comment about Abraham rejoicing to see Jesus’ day. They could not comprehend how Jesus could have ever seen Abraham. In response Jesus said “Before Abraham was I am.” Abraham was brought into being (created), I exist. This infuriated the Jews and they tried to stone Jesus because He made Himself equal with God.

*With God* - Jesus was in communion with God. He is one with the Father but a distinct person of the Godhead. When the world was formed, He was with God. We are told in John 10:30 “I and *my* Father are one”.

All things were made by Him. Jesus is seen here as being one with Elohim. We are told the same thing in Colossians 1:16.

#### In Jesus Name

John 16:23-24; 26-27

Jesus was preparing the disciples for His departure back to the Father. He had shared great details with them but they were still having problems comprehending that Jesus was returning to heaven. They wanted Him to set up His kingdom on earth right then.

*Verses 23-24,26-27* - “In that day” referred to after Jesus’ ascension to the Father.

Jesus told them they would no longer ask Him spiritual questions as they had grown accustomed to doing because they would have the Holy Spirit to in-

struct them (John 14:26; 16:13). Moreover, the disciples had been used to depending on Jesus for supplying their needs. For example, in Matthew 8:25 when the disciples believed they were about to perish on the boat they immediately woke Jesus up and asked Him to save them. But now Jesus told them that after His ascension, they were to go directly to the Father. Jesus would serve as the Mediator (Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:25). This is why during the entirety of Jesus’ earthly ministry He kept pointing people to the Father.

When prayer is made it is to be made directly to the Father in Jesus’ name. That is, in the authority of His name. No longer did they have to have the high priest to go to God for them but they could boldly approach God for themselves. Jesus would become the sacrificial Lamb that would sprinkle the blood on the altar purging mankind of its sin that had separated them from God. They would now have a mediator who would sit on the right hand of the Father, forever making intercession for them.

*“Whatsoever you ask the*

(cont)

*Father in my name*” - It is important we understand biblical principles in using the name of Jesus. It is relationship based. According to John 9:31 “Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth” (Ps 66:18 Pr 28:9 Isa 1:15).

Because our love for the Lord compels us to live a life holy and acceptable unto Him, when the word says “whatsoever” we ask, we understand that we are to ask for things in accordance to God’s will for us. *“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us” (1 John 5:14).*

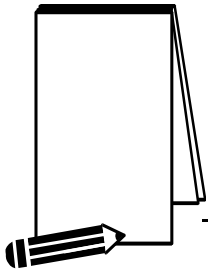
Jesus knew that this new concept would cause some doubt in the hearts of the disciples so he assured them in verses 26-27 that when they approached God using the name of Jesus, their petitions would be granted. Why? According to Jesus, because of their relationship with Jesus. Jesus said the “Father himself loveth you because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.” Actually their

expression of love toward Jesus only revealed how deeply they loved God because He and the Father are one.

This love is not lip service. It is not fleeting and what we have a tendency today to call love. According to Jesus, if we love Him we will keep his commandments. As much as the Pharisees argued their love for God, Jesus repeatedly challenged them that their love was not real.

Jesus was telling them that because of their relationship with Him, they could draw on His account and receive what the Father has.

*And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory (1 Timothy 3:16).*




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### Lesson In Review

1. These scriptures will help further your studies in understanding “in the beginning” in John 1:1. (Pr 8:22-31 Eph 3:9 Col 1:17 Heb 1:10 7:3 13:8; Re 1:2,8,11 2:8 21:6 22:13)
2. What does Jesus’ name mean?
3. Why did Jesus give the disciples new instructions concerning prayer in John 16?
  4. What does it mean to pray in Jesus’ name?
  5. Does everyone receive the same results from prayer? If not, what are some hindrances to receiving from God?
  6. What does the Bible mean when it tells us that “whatsoever we ask for” in Jesus’ name we shall receive it?
  7. What motivates us to live a life pleasing to the Father?
  8. What does it mean to pray in the name of Jesus?

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EQUIPPING THE SAINTS  
TO DO THE WORK  
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## He Is Everything To Me

In His Life, Christ is an example. In His death, He is a sacrifice. In His resurrection, He is a conqueror. In His ascension, He is a king. In His intercession, He is a high priest. Christ is full and sufficient for all His people. He is bread, wine, milk, living waters,

to feed us; He is a garment of righteousness to cover and adorn us; a Physician to heal us; a Counselor to advise us; a Captain to defend us; a Prince to rule us; a Prophet to teach us; a Priest to make atonement for us; a Husband to protect us; a Father to pro-

vide; a Brother to relieve; a Foundation to support; a Root to quicken; a Head to guide; a Treasure to enrich; a Sun to enlighten; and a Fountain to cleanse.

~John Spencer (1630-1693)

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