



### Lesson #3: Yahweh

Names occupy a significant place in our culture but they occupies an even more significant place in \_\_\_\_\_ times. No wonder Moses was so eager to learn the name of God. He knew the name of God would tell him something about God. In Exodus 3:14-15 God gave to him the most common and most important name for god in the Old Testament. The importance of this name is seen in its sheer frequency of use. It occurs \_\_\_\_\_ times in the Old Testament. Most often it is translated “\_\_\_\_\_” in all capital letters in your English Bible. In Hebrew the name had just four letters – YHWH. In older Hebrew texts the Jews inserted vowels of the Hebrew Word “Lord Adonai.” This is how we got the word “YaHoVah” (which is pronounced “Jehovah”).

The name “Yahweh” means “I AM” or that God is the one who \_\_\_\_\_ is. He is the \_\_\_\_\_-existent, eternal God. Nothing and noone can ever reach the greatness of Yahweh and yet we don’t come close to treating Him with the reverence He deserves. In order for us to truly undersatnd who Yahweh is we are going to look at three aspects of His person.

#### YAHWEH DELIGHTS TO \_\_\_\_\_ TRUTH

The name “Yahweh” carries with it the idea that God is the \_\_\_\_\_ cause. All likfe comes and and through Him and thus all purpose in life comes in and through Him. God is certainly \_\_\_\_\_ us but He is not \_\_\_\_\_ from us. When Moses wonders how he should respond when the Israelites will ask the name of God who has sent Him, God identifies Himself as “Yahweh” (Ex. 3:14). By this God demonstrates that He is not an abstract, unknowable being, or an abstract force. God is \_\_\_\_\_ Himself to mankind and He does so in two ways.

- A. He has revealed Himself \_\_\_\_\_**  
God reveals Himself through His creation (Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:20)
- B. He has revealed Himself \_\_\_\_\_**  
He granted the prophets the ability to \_\_\_\_\_ His message (Jeremiah 1:6-9) and He granted the patriarchs the ability to \_\_\_\_\_ His message (Exodus 6:3)

The vast majority of people treat God as if He is like \_\_\_\_\_. You learned about it once in school that it is in the air you breathe, but after that your belief in it makes no difference in your life.

#### YAHWEH DEPICTS GENUINE \_\_\_\_\_

The people who copied the Bible deemed this name, “Yahweh,” too holy even to \_\_\_\_\_. This name is the separate, unutterable, and \_\_\_\_\_ name.

- A. Because He is holy He \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ sin**  
In Genesis 3, when Satan comes to Eve to tempt her in the garden He refers to God by the name “\_\_\_\_\_.” When Eve responds she likewise refers to God by the name “\_\_\_\_\_.” But we find something very different when we come to verses 8 and 9. Here Adam and Eve are hiding themselves from “\_\_\_\_\_.” They did this because Yahweh is righteous and holy (Psalm 97:1-3; Habakkuk 1:3).
- B. Because He is holy we ought to be \_\_\_\_\_**  
Yahweh is “holy” in the sense that He is the epitome of holiness (Isaiah 6:3). We are told tah because He is holy we ought also to be holy (Leviticus 19:2; 1 Peter 1:16). The fact that Yahweh’s name means “*I am who I am*” implies that we must \_\_\_\_\_ to God, not He to us.

#### YAHWEH \_\_\_\_\_ TO STAY READY

The name Yahweh is an affirmation: “*I am who I am.*” God is not determined to do anything by any forces outside Himself. He is not subject to \_\_\_\_\_. Thusly, there are two things He has done and will continue to do.

- A. He ever wants to \_\_\_\_\_**  
Yahweh’s law is clearly the standard of righteousness. However, it is also true that we have \_\_\_\_\_ failed to live up to that standard. So what does Yahweh do? “*Yahweh is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_*” (Psalm 103:8). All throughout the Psalms we see Yahweh’s forgiveness of sins on full display (Psalm 103:13, 17, 32:1, 5).
- B. He ever wants to have \_\_\_\_\_ with man**  
By the name “Yahweh,” God identified Himself in His personal relationship with His people, Israel (Genesis 12:8). It was by the name, “Yahweh,” that God brought Israel out of Egypt and delivered them from bondage (Exodus 6:6; 20:2). And just as God drew near and delivered the Israelites from the bondage of slavery so too God drew near to us and delivered us from the bondage of sin. In John 8:56-58, Jesus is answering the criticism of Jewish leaders and says “*Before Abram was, \_\_\_\_\_.*” Jesus took up all the majestic truth of the name Yahweh and wrapped it all up in the humility of \_\_\_\_\_, offered himself to \_\_\_\_\_ for all our rebellion, and made a way for us to see the glory of Yahweh without \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Concluding Thoughts

God’s name “Yahweh” means “\_\_\_\_\_.” I am your \_\_\_\_\_ when you are \_\_\_\_\_. I am your friend when you are alone. I am your \_\_\_\_\_ life when you \_\_\_\_\_. No matter what you need, “I AM” all of those things! This is the hallowed name of God: I AM WHO I AM! And may those who know the name of God put their trust in His name.