

10 Powerful Names of God (And What They Mean for Us Today) Debbie McDaniel / www.debbiemcdaniel.com

There's great power in a name. ... And there's nothing so powerful as the name of our Lord God. The Bible says the name of the Lord is like a strong tower; the righteous can run to it and be saved. In a world that often feels chaotic and fear-filled, His name is the one to hold close.

God is the only One who never changes. His character, His name remains the same through all generations. He is fully trustworthy, always powerful, forever loving, and constantly present with us.

1. Elohim: Elohim means "God"—This name refers to God's incredible power and might. He is the One and only God. He is Supreme, the true God in a world that promotes many false gods and religions.

- (Genesis 1:1 ESV) In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
- (Psalm 19:1 ESV) The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

2. Yahweh: Yahweh means "The Lord"—Yahweh is derived from the Hebrew word for "I AM," it is the proper name of the divine person, coming from the verb which means to "exist," "be." When God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and to lead the Israelites out of Egypt, Moses was scared. He needed reassurance, he needed to know God was bigger than this problem, that He would carry them through, that even if people wouldn't listen to him, they would listen to the One who sent him. Because His name carried that much awe and honor.

- (Exodus 3:13–14 ESV) Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" 14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

3. Abba: Abba means "Daddy, Father"—Abba is the most intimate form of God's name, showing us His character as our loving daddy. He is the One who can be fully trusted, the One we can lean on, the One who cares about all that concerns us. Just as a godly father's presence in our daily lives is one of protection, security, and unconditional love, the constant presence of our heavenly Father is what gives us the strength and covering we need for this life's journey.

- (Galatians 4:6 ESV) And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

4. El Elyon: Means "God Most High"—El Elyon is a name used through the Old Testament revealing God is above all gods, that nothing in life is more sacred. He is indeed the Lord Most High, the One who reigns supreme. He is greater than any force of darkness in this world, He is bigger than any problem we might come up against in this life.

- (Psalm 7:17 ESV) I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.

5. El Roi: El Roi means "The God Who Sees"—I love the kindness and care that this name holds as it points to God's character. The name El Roi says to us that God is watching over all, that He sees the affairs of people, and knows when we feel lost and unloved.

When Hagar had run away to a desert place far from those she felt hurt and betrayed by, we see God surround her in so much grace and care. He didn't leave her alone in her troubles. Nor will He leave us to fend for ourselves through difficult times. This story of God's name reminds us that He is always close, that He sees us when we feel that no one else does, and that He cares.

- (Genesis 16:13 ESV) So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing," for she said, "Truly here I have seen him who looks after me."

6. El Shaddai: El Shaddai means "God Almighty"—God's name, El Shaddai, reminds us that He is all-powerful, He is the Mighty One. And we can find refuge and rest in His shadow.

- (Psalm 91:1 ESV) He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

7. Yahweh Yireh: Yahweh Yireh means "The Lord Will Provide"—God will provide for our needs. Every one of them, He is faithful, He is able, nothing is too difficult for Him. Sometimes His timing is different than ours, maybe we feel that He's forgotten and hasn't heard our prayers.

- (Genesis 22:14 ESV) So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

8. Yahweh Nissi: Yahweh Nissi means "The Lord Is My Banner"—This is the name of God that proclaims His protection, leadership, and deliverance for His people.

- (Exodus 17:15 ESV) And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, The LORD Is My Banner.

9. Yahweh Shalom: Yahweh Shalom means "The Lord Is Peace"—God is the only One able to give us the peace that passes all of our own

understanding. Gideon knew this well from a time that he and his people were surrounded by a fierce enemy. There was nothing about that time that seemed "peaceful." And yet, God showed up strong on their behalf, He was faithful and brought deliverance straight through fear-filled days. Maybe that's why Gideon felt so led to build an altar to the Lord and call it, "The Lord is Peace." In times of greatest darkness, he had seen how true this was. The peace of God often doesn't make sense to a world that would tell us to hurry and worry. A world that seems hard some days, and often so full of struggles. In the midst of it all, He reminds us that He is our true peace, so we never need to fear. No matter what we face.

- (Judges 6:24 ESV) Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, The LORD Is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

[<https://www.ibelieve.com/faith/10-powerful-names-of-god-and-what-they-mean-for-us-today.html>]

1. God is Elohim—He is your Creator.
2. God is Elohim Chayim—He is the Living God.
3. God is Abba—He is your Father.
4. God is Jehovah-jireh—the Lord will provide.
5. God is Jehovah-shalom—the Lord is Peace.
6. God is El Elyon—He is your Sovereign.
7. God is El Kanna—The Jealous God.
8. God is El Roi—He sees you.
9. God is Jehovah Ro'i—He is your Shepherd.
10. God is Jehovah Nissi—He is my banner.

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[<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/bible-study/10-names-of-god-and-what-they-mean.html>]