

NAMES OF THE FATHER
Part III
Genesis 1:1-3

Introduction: Like a many-sided diamond, with a myriad of beautiful hues, each name of God that the Bible has revealed to us shows an attribute of the Father. His being is so exponential; we can never fully mine His essence and character. We should bear in mind that the same attributes that the Father has are equally a part of the Son and the Holy Spirit, because all three are in the Godhead and have a commonality in purpose, in essence, and in totality.

I. The names of the Father and how they relate to us

A. The compound names for God

1. There are three primary names of God, and they are often joined together, or compounded, to communicate further insight into the person of God and how He cares for His people.
 - a. *Elohim* – God. Genesis 1:1.
 - b. *Yahweh (Jehovah)* – Lord. Genesis 2:4.
 - c. *Adonai* – Lord / Master. Genesis 15:2.
2. The compound names
 - a. Lord God – *Yahweh / Elohim*. Genesis 2:4.
 - b. Lord God – *Adonai / Yahweh*. Genesis 15:2.
 - c. Lord God – *Adonai / Elohim*. Daniel 9:3.
 - 1) The name Lord God (*Yahweh Elohim*) blends two major names for His deity and is used in Scripture to indicate: (a) the relationship of God to man in creation, Genesis 2:7-15; (b) the moral authority of God over man, vss. 16,17; (c) the one who controls man's earthly relationships, vss. 18-24; (d) the one who redeems man, 3:15, 21.
 - 2) The name Lord God (*Adonai Yahweh*) emphasizes the *Adonai* or Lordship characteristics of God, rather than His *Yahweh* traits. While He is still Creator, of course, the expression "the Lord God" indicates that He is Master of His people as well.
 - 3) The third compound name, Lord God (*Adonai Elohim*) refers to God as Master and Creator. This name means that God is Master over all the false gods of other religions. When Daniel prays, "I set my face unto the Lord God" (Daniel 9:3), he is affirming that his Master (*Adonai*) is God (*Elohim*) over false deities who claim to be God.

II. How the Jews used God's name

A. The various names of God represent a theology of Him that comes from the perspective of the Hebrew mind.

1. The various Jewish encyclopedias indicate that of all the names of God recorded in their Old Testament, the name *Yahweh* is God's distinctive personal name. The other names for God are actually titles, descriptions, or reflections of His attributes.
2. In old times, the Jews felt that *the* divine name was equivalent to God's divine presence and power.
3. The name *Yahweh* was specially connected with the altar or the Holy of Holies, because that was the localized presence of God on earth.
4. Instead of looking to pagan altars, God directs them to create a special place to meet with Him. Deuteronomy 12:5-6.
5. Because of how sacred the Jews considered the name *Yahweh*, when a scribe copying the Scriptures came to the sacred name, he would lay aside his quill and get a new one with which to write *Yahweh*. Then he would break the new pen so that no other name would ever flow from it, ensuring that the scribe would not be charged with blaspheming *the* Name.

III. How Jesus taught the multitudes.

A. Jesus taught the people how to address their prayers. Luke 11:1-4. Note verse 2.

1. The first person of the Trinity.
2. Use an intimate introduction.

Conclusion: It is a great honor to have an intimate relationship with the Father God. The more I fellowship with Him, the more intimately I want to know Him. Let us give the proper honor to His Majesty the King.