

Exodus 3:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

Analysis

And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations (וַיֹּאמֶר עוֹד אֱלֹהִים אֶל-מֹשֶׁה פֶּה—) God expands the name revelation: **The LORD** (יהָה, YHWH)—the tetragrammaton, God's covenant name. It connects I AM (הָיָה, ehyeh) to the third person form: "He who is/will be." **God of your fathers... Abraham, Isaac, Jacob** roots this revelation in covenant history—not a new god but the patriarchs' God now revealing His personal name. **This is my name for ever** (זֶה-שְׁמִי לְעוֹלָם—eternal, unchanging identifier. **My memorial unto all generations** (זְכָרֵי לְדֹרְדֹר)—how God wants to be remembered and invoked. YHWH becomes Israel's most sacred name, so holy later Jews avoided pronouncing it, saying Adonai (Lord) instead.

Historical Context

The name YHWH (LORD) appears over 6,800 times in the Hebrew Bible, far more than any other divine name. Its etymology from 'to be' emphasizes God's self-existence and faithfulness ('He who is' and 'He who will be'—always present,

unchanging). The Exodus event and name revelation became the defining moment in Israel's history, referenced throughout Scripture as the paradigmatic act of divine redemption.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does God's eternal name YHWH assure you of His unchanging character and faithfulness across all generations?
2. What does the connection between 'I AM' (v. 14) and 'YHWH' (v. 15) teach about God's self-revelation progressing from mystery to covenant relationship?

Interlinear Text

תֹּאמֶר	תֹּאמֶר	וְאֵלֶּה	אֵל	מֶשֶׁךְ	כִּי
Thus shalt thou say	moreover	And God	H413	unto Moses	H3541
H559	H5750	H430		H4872	
תֹּאמֶר	תֹּאמֶר	אֵל	בָּנִים	יִשְׂרָאֵל	יְהוָה
Thus shalt thou say	H413	unto the children	H1121	of Israel	The LORD
H559				H3478	H3068
אֶבְתִּיכָּךְ	אֶבְתִּיכָּךְ	אֶבְתִּיכָּךְ	אֶבְתִּיכָּךְ	אֶבְתִּיכָּךְ	אֶבְתִּיכָּךְ
of your fathers	And God	of Abraham	And God	of Isaac	And God
H1	H430	H85	H430	H3327	H430
יְשַׁלֵּם	יְשַׁלֵּם	שְׁמִי	לְעֵלָם	לְעֵלָם	לְעֵלָם
hath sent	H413	H2088	me unto you this is my name	for ever	H2088
H7971			H8034	H5769	
זִיכָּר	דָּרְךָ	דָּרְךָ			
and this is my memorial	generations	generations			
H2143	H1755	H1755			

Additional Cross-References

Hebrews 13:8 (Parallel theme): Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Hosea 12:5 (References God): Even the LORD God of hosts; the LORD is his memorial.

Malachi 3:6 (References Lord): For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Exodus 3:6 (References God): Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

Psalms 135:13 (References Lord): Thy name, O LORD, endureth for ever; and thy memorial, O LORD, throughout all generations.

Micah 4:5 (References God): For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

Psalms 102:12 (References Lord): But thou, O LORD, shalt endure for ever; and thy remembrance unto all generations.

Exodus 4:5 (References God): That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

Isaiah 9:6 (References God): For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Acts 7:32 (References God): Saying, I am the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold.