

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 כֹּה־) (תֹּאמַר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם... זֶה־שְּׁמִי לְעֹלָם וְזֶה זִכְרִי לְדֹר דֹּר)—God expands the name revelation: **The LORD** (יְהוָה, YHWH)—the tetragrammaton, God's covenant name. It connects I AM (אֶהְיֶה, 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־שְּׁמִי לְעֹלָם)—eternal, unchanging identifier. **My memorial unto all generations** (זִכְרִי לְדֹר דֹּר)—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

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|
| תֹּאמַר | ע וְ | וְאֵלֶּהָ י | אֵל | מֹשֶׁה ה | כֹּה |
| Thus shalt thou say | moreover | And God | H413 | unto Moses | H3541 |
| H559 | H5750 | H430 | | H4872 | |
| תֹּאמַר | אֵל | בְּנֵי י | יִשְׂרָאֵל | יְהוָה ה | וְאֵלֶּהָ י |
| Thus shalt thou say | H413 | unto the children | of Israel | The LORD | And God |
| H559 | | H1121 | H3478 | H3068 | H430 |
| אֲבֹתֶיךָ ׀ | וְאֵלֶּהָ י | אֲבֹרָה ׀ | וְאֵלֶּהָ י | יִצְחָק ׀ | וְאֵלֶּהָ י |
| of your fathers | And God | of Abraham | And God | of Isaac | And God |
| H1 | H430 | H85 | H430 | H3327 | H430 |
| | | | | | H3290 |
| יְהוָה ׀ | אֵלֶיךָ ׀ | זֶה | שְׁמִי י | לְעֹלָם ׀ | וְזֶה |
| hath sent | H413 | H2088 | me unto you this is my name | for ever | H2088 |
| H7971 | | | H8034 | H5769 | |
| זָכַר י | דָּר: | דָּר: | | | |
| 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.