

[Faith, Hope & Love_Part9](#)

As you know we are continuing our study on the building blocks of the kingdom of God: faith, hope, and love. And to address this issue of faith we have been studying the names of God in order that we might come to know the truth about our God; and thereby make our day-in-and-day-out decisions of our life according to the truth, regardless of what we would otherwise think and feel. **Romans 12:3** says that every man has been granted a measure of faith; and that is clearly evident. However, people tend to put their faith in all manner of things, especially themselves, but also in a semblance of God that is quite different than what has been revealed in the name. I find it amazing that most Christians who say they “call on His name” do not really know Him at all. For the most part, they have never been taught who He is; they have just been taught what they need to do “for” Him to be a “good” Christian and to gain His favor and blessing in this life. But to be in a relationship with someone you need to know them; and we need to know our God! We need to know His character and nature and “how” He does things and most importantly “why” He does things.

This study of the names of God has been both glorious and very difficult. For example, **Jehovah Mekoddishkem**—the Lord who Sanctifies You—was a very hard name, and we spent three weeks on this name alone. The implications of this name are staggering, but **Jehovah Mekoddishkem** reveals to us so much about who God is and who we are to Him. Understanding God for real has the power to absolutely change your lives forever: *for there is much power in the name when it is accompanied by faith*. And if you don’t know His name, then there is no way you can, by faith, “call on His name” in order to be saved.

Last week we closed with the 11th name of God, **Elohim**, which simply means “God.” It is a generic name that is used more than any of the other names, but we must not miss the implications of this name simply because of its common usage. As with the other names, the implications are staggering when it comes to betting our lives on and making our moment-by-moment decisions according to the name. As we studied last week, **Elohim** means that He is the one who lives outside of time; knows all things; understands all things; is above all of creation (including the ruler of the kingdom of the world); is self-sufficient; needs no one and nothing and is therefore unchangeable; is truly incomprehensible except for what He reveals; and is everywhere all the time. He is, quite simply said, **God!**

As we get started with this name, I want you to know that we are going to be doing a very deep Bible study covering much territory. If you were to just learn the scriptures which deal with **Elohim** and bet your life on this name—make your moment-by-moment decisions according to this name—I guarantee, without a doubt, that you would be able to live in peace and rest and know the power of the Lord. It is a lot; and I want you to focus and learn because our **Elohim** is beyond comprehension.

First, let’s start with the fact that He is the one who lives outside of time. Time is a construct of creation; thus, it has a beginning and will have an end. It is finite, as is all of creation, and not eternal. For humanity, time is a construct through which events in the past, present, and future can be measured and ordered. **Genesis 1:1** starts by declaring that God created the heavens and the earth. Time had a beginning. **Genesis 1:14** explains that God created the lights in the expanse of the heavens in order that they might be signs for seasons, days, and years. The sun, the

moon, and the stars are essentially the tools by which we have learned to measure time and ascribe certain events to certain times. But **Revelation 21:1** makes it clear that the heaven and earth will pass away. **2 Peter 3:12** explains that there will be a day where it will all be destroyed with intense heat: the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements of creation will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. The point, once again, is that time is a construct of creation and is not eternal.

But God sits outside of time. **Deuteronomy 33:27** and **1 Timothy 1:17** say that our King—the only God—is eternal; thus, He is not bound by the construct of time. **Psalms 102:27**, says that His years have no end; and **Isaiah 57:15** says that He is the high and lofty one who lives in eternity. In fact, He is so eternally magnificent that we must understand that our experience of time is nothing to Him.

Isaiah 40:12, 15, 17, 22

Who else has held the oceans in his hand? Who has measured off the heavens with his fingers? Who else knows the weight of the earth or has weighed the mountains and hills on a scale? ... All the nations of the world are but a drop in the bucket. They are nothing more than dust on the scales. He picks up the whole earth as though it were a grain of sand. ... The nations of the world are worth nothing to him. In his eyes they count for less than nothing—mere emptiness and froth. ... God sits above the circle of the earth. The people below seem like grasshoppers to him! He spreads out the heavens like a curtain and makes his tent from them.

Do you understand? Having an eternal perspective, He is able to see all things at once, the beginning from the end. In fact, **Job 28:24** says that He looks to the ends of the earth and sees everything under the heavens. **Hebrews 4:13** similarly declares that nothing is hidden from his sight—all is exposed to the eyes of Him to which we must give account. The fact that God sits outside of time ensures us that He is the only one who *knows all things*. He knows what you are going to do, what you are going to say, what you are thinking all before you even do, say, or think your thoughts. It is all laid clear before Him. **1 Samuel 2:3** says that He is a god of knowledge. In fact, **Job 37:16** says that He is perfect or complete in knowledge and **1 John 3:19-20** says that He knows everything and is even above our feelings (which for some reason seem to always act as if they know more than God). His knowledge is so complete that **Matthew 10:30** explains that even the hairs of your head are numbered—He knows each and every one. **Psalms 139:4** even declares that the Lord knows what I am going to say before a word is on my tongue.

Psalms 139:1-6, 16

O Lord, you have examined my heart and know everything about me. You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away. You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do. You know what I am going to say even before I say it, Lord. You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand!...You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was

laid out before a single day had passed.

How fantastic is that? Our God, who sits outside of time, is complete in knowledge knowing the beginning from the end; therefore, to whom can you compare God? To yourself, to your thoughts, to your feelings, or to any other created thing (including the king of this world)? I don't think so! Our God sits alone when it comes to His place in eternity.

The fact that He knows all things to some is a very frightening thing, but to others it brings the most comfort and solace—the very reason they can live in rest and peace. In fact, this truth (along with **Jehovah Tsidkenu**—the Lord who is our righteousness) gives you the tools to demolish the good child/bad child syndrome that affects all of us. If you want to understand what I mean by the “good child/bad child syndrome,” we covered it in our study on September 08, 2013 when we were exploring the name **Jehovah Tsidkenu**. Just go to our website and all the teachings are listed there. But simply said, the “good child/bad child syndrome” is at the root of all our pride and our shame.

Now because **Elohim** knows all things, there is nothing I can do that will ever surprise God. In fact, He sees everything I ever have done and everything I will ever do. He knows it all and He knew it all before I was even created. While I was just a thought in His head, all the pages of my life were written. And still, with all that knowledge, **Jehovah Mekoddishkem**—the Lord who sanctifies you—still chose me to be set apart for Him and for Him alone. Yes, He still chose me. This means God chose to love me even though He knew the darkness in my soul and all the awful things I would say and do. If that is the truth, and you are one of the chosen ones,

then why, tell me why should you live in shame? Why should you let guilt drive you? You act as if your failures somehow alters the way God views you. It doesn't. You must understand that all of the anger which God should have as result of your sin, rebellion and rejection of Him has already been expressed and given full vent. It was all poured out on the Son. Jesus was judged by His Father for every horrible thought and deed you ever did and ever will do. But right before He died Jesus declared that it is finished, the penalty for sin had been paid and He paid this penalty for you. Thus, God does not deal with you on the basis of your sin nor does He deal harshly with you as you deserve. **Psalm 103:11-12** makes it clear. "His unfailing love *toward those who fear him* is as great as the height of the heavens above the earth. He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west," and that is pretty far.

Thus, why do you keep dealing with **Elohim** on the basis of your sin if that is not how He deals with you? Is this concept getting through your head and finding a place to land in the pool of your emotions? Religion forces people to deal with God, and with one another, on the basis of sin; but God deals with those who fear Him on the basis of their faith. Remember, **Romans 1:17**; **Galatians 3:11**; and **Hebrews 10:38** all declare that the just shall live by faith. And we have learned what it means to fear God: to literally hate evil (**Proverbs 8:13**)—to hate everything that does not come from God and is not God. Now the Biblical concept of hate is different than what we might otherwise think. Most of us tend to loath things and equate that with hate. But they are not synonymous. To hate something is to loath it to such an extent that you are willing to reject it and be done with it. I loath blue cheese, but I hate fishy tasting food. I literally reject it physically, emotionally, and must walk

away from it or else I will gag all over you. That is what it looks like to hate.

Those who make this decision to hate all that is not of God within their soul are making a decision of faith (which of course is the only way to be pleasing to God) and proves out that they are the chosen—those whom God does not deal with on the basis of sin. Thus, if you are one of the chosen ones, I have to ask you: why do you fear God as if He is going to reject you or deal with you harshly believing you “failed” Him? Why do you cringe from Him in shame? Do you understand that if you bet your life on the name **Elohim**, there is no place for shame or this kind of fear? Those are all wasted emotions and you are wearing yourself out as well as everyone else in your life. If you are a chosen one, you can rest in peace confident that **Elohim** knew everything before **Jehovah Mekoddishkem** chose you to be His very own. So instead of striving with your “failure” choose instead to rest.

You might be thinking, if God is not mad at us, angry, disappointed, or annoyed with our choices, then what is He and why do I have to go through such difficult things in this life? Well, that will be explained when we get to the name **Jehovah Qanna**—the Lord (**Yahweh**) your God (**Elohim**) is a jealous God (**Exodus 34:14; Deuteronomy 4:24**). And in His jealousy, He will do whatever it takes to get you to know Him in return. This is a very intense name in terms of our relationship with God and what He is willing to do to be in relationship with us. But we will save this name for later. Let’s just leave it that He loves you and you can rest in His having chosen you knowing beforehand all that you would think, say, and do.

In addition to Him being outside of time and the only one who knows all things, He also understands everything. **1 Chronicles 28:9** says that the Lord searches all hearts and understands every intention of every thought. **Psalms 33:15** says that He

understands all our works. His understanding is infinite and has no limits (**Psalm 147:5**). I want you to think back to all the times and all the situations where you were absolutely convinced that no one understood you. Do you remember how dark and lonely you felt? It is a way of thinking that is embedded in the *victim mentality* and it is premised upon a gross lie. It is true that no one can truly know the thoughts of another, much less understand them. In fact, we barely understand even a fragment of “why” we think the things we think and feel the things we feel. But God’s understanding of our soul is complete—through and through. He knows not just the “what” but He knows the “why.” This is why He can bring us into understanding and help us discern the matters of our own heart.

Job 32:8 says that the breath of the Almighty gives understanding and **Job 38:36** says that God gives understanding to the mind. In fact, if it was not for His understanding of our soul, most of us would be stuck never knowing why we do what we do, and what we can do about it. But from His mouth come knowledge and understanding (**Proverbs 2:6**). In fact, **Jeremiah 17:9-10** makes it clear that without His granting to us understanding, most of us would not even begin to comprehend the depth of our opposition to God. The Spirit says that our hearts are desperately sick and more deceitful than all else. But thank goodness He not only understands, but He can counsel us and give us the wisdom we need for all that we do not know or understand (**Job 12:13**). **Elohim** is our provision for the weakness, frailty, and deceitfulness of our own souls.

This is why we can trust His Word more than we can trust our feelings or our thoughts. His Word is true because He is knowledge and He has understanding whereas we are filled with deceit and weakness. Hence, to know **Elohim**—to have

faith in the name—means that you forego what you think and feel and let His Word have the preeminence in your life. His Word is to be your ultimate authority. Why are you so arrogant to think that you know more than the Word of God? Why are you so arrogant to believe that your feelings provide the best counsel for your life? Why are you so arrogant to think that you really know what you are doing and why you are doing it? It saddens me; but it means that *you do not yet believe in the name*. Yet, since your heart is more deceitful than all else, you probably have convinced yourself that you do. It is sad and tragic but our pride is the bane of our existence.

When you think no one understands you and you are frustrated with your inability to even grasp “why” you do what you do, it is time to run to the name **Elohim**. He knows, He understands, and He is the only one who can impart understanding to you. And He is faithful to be true to His name; so in this you can trust. He will show you the “what” and the “why” and provide for you a path forward—a pathway of faith—whereby you get to choose to truly call on His name and be saved from the sickness of your soul.

Elohim is also above all of creation (including the ruler of the kingdom of the world). No one and nothing can stand before the majesty of our God.

Psalm 135:5-6

I know the greatness of the Lord—that our Lord is greater than any other god. The Lord does whatever pleases him throughout all heaven and earth, and on the seas and in their depths.

Even the ruler of this world, Lucifer, has already been judged by God (**John 16:11**) and he has been found wanting. As a result, **John 12:31**, says that he will be cast out of the world. As we have studied, Satan has a permitted rule over this earth and not a natural rule. Jesus has the natural rule; and when it is time He will kick out Lucifer and his demonic hordes. In the same way Lucifer, and his angels who follow him, will be cast out of the heavens (**Revelation 12:9**). Jesus is supreme. He is **El Elyon**—the Most High God—and Satan is not. In addition, **Elohim** is also above all of mankind and every king and kingdom of this world.

Psalm 2:1-4

Why are the nations in an uproar and the peoples devising a vain thing? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers take counsel together against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us tear their fetters apart and cast away their cords from us!" He who sits in the heavens laughs, the Lord scoffs at them."

Psalm 29:10

Yes, the Lord sits as King forever.

Psalm 47:6-8

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is

the King of all the earth; sing praises with a skillful psalm. God reigns over the nations, God sits on His holy throne.

Isaiah 40:22-23

It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. He it is who reduces rulers to nothing, who makes the judges of the earth meaningless.

Revelation 5:13

And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever."

Jesus is truly the Most High God. This is why Jesus confidently says that every knee (from Lucifer to the greatest kings of the earth) will bow to Him and every tongue will give Him praise (***Romans 14:11; Philippians 2:10***). He is above all. Consider with awe this declaration about God made by King Nebuchadnezzar:

Daniel 4:34-35

For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom endures from

generation to generation. “All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, but He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth; and no one can ward off His hand or say to Him, 'What have You done?'”

Once again, the name **Elohim** brings to the chosen one great comfort. If He is above all and is over all and His majesty is so incomparable, then what do you have to fear? No one and nothing can do anything to you. Your God is not tiny, He is not small, His arm has not lost any strength nor is His hand too short to reach out and save you from each and every situation (**Numbers 11:23; Isaiah 59:1**). Rest in the power, the glory, majesty, and supremacy of your God.

Elohim is also self-sufficient. He needs no one and nothing and is therefore unchangeable. We cannot add anything to Him no matter how hard we try and we similarly cannot take anything away from Him. He is God. **Job 22:2-3**, says “Can a person do anything to help God? Can even a wise person be helpful to him? Is it any advantage to the Almighty if you are righteous? Would it be any gain to him if you were perfect?” Likewise, **Job 35:7** says, “If you are righteous, what do you give to Him, Or what does He receive from your hand?” Clearly, the intended answers to these questions is no and nothing. But moving from a negative argument to the affirmative, the Spirit makes it clear that God needs nothing.

Acts 17:24-25

He is the God who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven

and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples, and human hands can't serve his needs—for he has no needs. He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need.

The Lord is entirely self-sufficient. He does not even need our worship. Our worship of Him is for our own good; He knows that it is what pleases, satisfies, and fills our soul and that is why we are commanded to worship Him. And because the Lord needs nothing from us and receives nothing from us, He is what we call immutable. He does not change. He always is consistent with His character and nature revealed by the name. **Malachi 3:6**, says “I am the Lord, and I do not change.” **Hebrews 13:8**, says “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” **James 1:17**, says “He never changes or casts a shifting shadow.” **Isaiah 31:2** says that He will not change His mind or retract His words.” And **Hebrews 6:17** says that we can be perfectly sure that God will not change His promises to us.

Once again, the name **Elohim** should bring you great comfort. Because He is self-sufficient and needs nothing from you, He does not change based on our behavior. He is the same, whether we do it right or wrong, and that is always something we can depend upon. We constantly change based on how people treat us, and far too often we are looking out for our own interests. But God is always in every situation looking out for our best interests. Now, we may not always like what He knows to be “our best” interests, but He is consistent and He always leads us down the best pathways for our life (**Psalms 32:8**). This is **Elohim**—our God. He is thoroughly dependable. You don't ever have to worry about this aspect of our God. He is who He says He is and that never changes!

Elohim is also incomprehensible except for what He chooses to reveal to us. *Isaiah 55:9* says, “For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.” *Psalms 145:3* says that His greatness is unsearchable. *Psalms 147:5* says that His understanding is beyond measure. And *Psalms 139:6* says that the manner in which He knows us so completely is a knowledge that is incomprehensible.

The wonderful thing about **Elohim** is that He is always more than we can know and He is always bigger than we can fathom. Thankfully, He reveals Himself in the name. We can know Him by His name; but there is so much to God that we simply do not have the capacity to comprehend. *Deuteronomy 29:29* says, “The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law.” And what He has revealed to us belongs to us; and it brings us life! *John 17:3* says, “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” When you decide to trust in the name **Elohim**, and bet your life on that name, you will find that your soul will be filled with such peace because you will no longer feel the need to argue with God and demand your ways. You will be confident that the one who is so big that we cannot comprehend Him is worthy of our unlimited trust because He knows far more than we could ever know. And what He has revealed to us about Himself is so utterly fantastic that we need to know every bit of it so we can learn to depend upon every last word, for His word brings us life.

Finally, **Elohim** and is everywhere all the time. We can never escape His presence in our lives.

Psalm 139:7-12

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the dawn, if I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Your hand will lead me, and Your right hand will lay hold of me. If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, and the light around me will be night," Even the darkness is not dark to You, and the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to You.

Add this to the fact that ***Colossians 1:17*** says that He is before all things and in Him all things hold together, and we can be assured that in every little tiny corner of creation He is present. And He confirms this truth when He says to us in ***Hebrews 13:5-6***, "I will never leave you nor forsake you. So you can confidently say, the Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" The name **Elohim**, in this regard, is very similar to what we learned with **Jehovah Shammah**—He is there and there is right where you are—always! You are never alone and He is never far from you. He is there. His presence in your life is an eternal reality.

I know this name is a lot and I have given you a banquet feast of His love. In fact, you can eat for weeks and weeks on what God has revealed to us in the name **Elohim**. But you, and you alone, must make the choice to eat. I cannot force you to eat. But I must warn you, Jesus says we must eat His body and drink His blood in order that we might have life in ourselves (***John 6:53***). If you are tired of being weak and frail in your faith, then eat and eat and eat and don't stop.

John 6:55-58

For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever.

Eat this bread and drink this wine and live. Study this name, go through all the scriptures (remember, the PowerPoint slides are posted on the website) and learn to rest in **Elohim**—your God!

Let's Pray