

Names of God: Jehovah

Intro: Sometimes called God's name. I will agree that it is the name used most frequently in the Scriptures (6,823 times), but I believe it is an extremely important name among others that can give us a richer grasp of who God is. Its frequency of use should tell us the importance of understanding its meaning.

1. How We Got Jehovah
 - A. First appears in Gen. 2:4. Gen. 28:13 tells us Jehovah and Elohim are same.
 - B. In Hebrew, it is YHWH (obviously, has no vowels)
 - C. In tradition, considered so holy, the name would not be pronounced. Adonai would be substituted.
 - D. Years later, vowels were supplied by Jewish scholars in 10 century A. D.
 - E. Translated JHVH in German. Vowels supplied and we get Jehovah in English.
 - F. Most English translations use LORD. Lord is used for Adonai.

2. Moses and Yahweh or Jehovah. Exodus 3:10-16; 6:23
 - A. Tell them "I AM has sent you". Phrase comes from "havah" (being)
 - B. Havah (some sources – hayah) Same word considered to be origin of Yahweh.
 - C. All nations had their "elohims". Yahweh is Israel's special name for God.
2 Chronicles 14:11; Psalm 86:10
 - D. In Exodus, Israel needed to believe in the God of the present.
 - E. How many us believe in the God who acts in the present?
 - F. "Thus saith the LORD". Always Jehovah.
 - G. Jehovah or Yahweh is God revealing himself.
 - H. Explains why Jesus refers to himself as the I AM in John's Gospel.

3. Jehovah or Yahweh gives us a deeper revelation of God's nature and identity.
 - A. Is Righteous – Psalms 11:7; Daniel 9:14
 - B. Those who follow him are to be the same. Leviticus 19:2
 - C. Is Loving – Jeremiah 31:3
 - D. Is full of compassion and love, but requires justice as well.
Exod. 34:6-7; Judges 10:6-7
 - D. Will atone for sin. See Leviticus 16. 12 references to God as Yahweh.
Hebrews 10:8-12; 10:19,22; 3:11-12 – Jesus revealed this atonement in full.

Conclusion: Do you know the God who is in the present tense? He is the God who continues to be Jehovah, who reveals himself today through the written word. He is the one who can mend broken hearts and broken relationships. He can give us courage when we are afraid and give us control over our anger and resentment when want to hurt back. Jehovah continues to be God of the present moment, not just the past.