

NAMES OF THE LORD

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Reading: Exodus 3:13-17

One of the important things to remember when we hear the stories in the Lord's Word is that although the Lord is called by many different names, He is One Lord. The reason why He is called by so many different names is because He does so many different things. The Lord, as you know, made all things; He made, or created, all the stars and the planets, all trees and flowers, all animals and all people. And because the Lord made or created all things and beings, He is called THE CREATOR.

The most holy name by which the Lord was known to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and to their descendants, was JEHOVAH. This name really means that the Lord alone *is*. Nothing would exist unless He was, and is, and always will be. This is why the Lord called Himself "I AM" when He commanded Moses to bring the children of Israel out of the slavery of Egypt and take them back to their promised land (see Exodus 3:14).

When the prophet Isaiah foretold of the Lord's coming, or birth, into the world, he spoke of Him, among other things, as our "EVERLASTING FATHER". The Lord cares for all His people as a father cares for his children. In this world there will come a time when your earthly father no longer needs to care for you. But the Lord is our Everlasting Father, and to all eternity each and everyone of us needs His care, His love, and His guidance.

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her that she should give birth to a son, she was also told to give Him the name, JESUS. The reason the Lord was called Jesus when He was born among people was because the important thing He came to do on earth was to save the world. He came to teach people how they could be saved from their sins. And the name Jesus means Savior.

The more we learn about the Lord and about the names by which He is called in the Word, the better we can come to understand His great love and wisdom. And the better we understand His love and wisdom, and seek to live according to His Commandments, the closer we will be to Him and become happy in His heaven.

Amen.