

Challenging Today's Ministers

Teach the Truth You Learned!

It is astonishing that some take a negative position regarding the Sacred Name of the Almighty Heavenly Father, which was inspired to be written in the Hebrew Scriptures as **Yahweh**.

Those who are familiar with the Hebrew text (as is the author) know from reading the Scriptures that the Tetragrammaton (the four letters of the Heavenly Father's Name) appears prominently. When the reader encounters this word, he is confronted with the compelling question: "What shall I do with this Name?" There is no escaping this confrontation.

The four letters appearing in the Hebrew text are definitely the Name

by

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of the Almighty, because we are told in numerous passages throughout the Scriptures that this is His Name. Beginning with Isaiah 42:8, you can prove this to yourself. Several of the more recent translations render this verse, "My Name is Yahweh . . ." One such is the **Jerusalem Bible**.

It is understandable that an individual who does not know Hebrew might hesitate to accept the Sacred Name, but it is puzzling to see those who should know better continue to support an obvious fallacy. In our time, knowledge

has increased—just as Almighty Yahweh declared that it would through the prophet Daniel in the 12th chapter of his prophecy. There are books generally available that will assist the layman to break the language barrier, allowing him to see for himself the importance of the Sacred Name in the Hebrew text. Even though you may not possess these study works, you can see the significance of the Name through a study of several Scriptures, such as Psalm 68:4 and Psalm 83:18. When you understand that, where the term "Lord" appears in the **King James Bible**, the Name **Yahweh** usually

appeared in the original texts, it becomes very simple to prove the Sacred Name doctrine. Merely restore the authentic Name of the Almighty when reading the Bible.

In this editorial, the author will address some personal remarks to ministers who have a background in biblical studies and possible expertise in biblical languages, understanding it more readily than the layman.

In these remarks, it is not the author's intention to be insulting or abusive in any way, but to make a forceful case for the **exclusive** use of the Sacred Name in our worship. This is the position taken by the Assemblies of Yahweh—a position arrived at only after careful study of the Scriptures.

When you attended seminary, or took the required home study ministerial course given by the church that granted your credentials, you undoubtedly encountered the Name **Yahweh** in a discussion of the Old Testament text. Did you simply ignore it as **unimportant**, or did you justify your refusal to use it with some vague Scripture that does not mean what you intend it to say?

Do you remember doing **topical studies** on various passages of Scripture when you studied in seminary or college? In every institution of learning where methodical Bible study is taught, the student is instructed to examine the text carefully and allow it to speak to him rather than superimposing personal views upon what the Bible teaches. The motives behind such an approach to Bible study are indeed noble, but how many ministers today truly follow this superlative system? Do you? It might be well to review some of those lessons, and note how most ministers have departed from these principles.

To obtain an accurate overview of what the Bible teaches, the author suggests a key-center verse for a nutshell interpretation of the entire biblical message. This key-center verse appears near the physical

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center of the Bible. The physical center verse is Psalm 118:8, and Psalm 117 is the center chapter. Upon the key-center verse of the Bible hinges the entire biblical message. That key-center verse is Psalm 96:5. ***“For all the elohim of the peoples are idols; But Yahweh made the heavens.”***

The Bible describes the continuous struggle of Almighty Yahweh, the true Mighty One, against the worthless idols that the nations of the world have made for their worship. Tenaciously, the people of the world insist that they are worshipping the true Mighty One, when, in fact, **only** the Hebrew religion is authentic. The biblical message centers on calling out a special people to be the True Worshipers of the Most High, and it shows how these chosen ones continually fell away, constantly backsliding into the alluring idolatry of the worldly nations.

Is it not logical to conclude that

if there is **one** True and Living Mighty One, **THERE ARE NO OTHER LIVING ELOHIM?** As Paul said in 1 Corinthians 8:4-6, “. . . **there are many Mighty Ones, and many Lords.**” But there is only one Father, Yahweh, and with His only begotten Son, Yahshua the Messiah, they make up the True Elohim family. No other mighty ones exist, so **why** worship in the phony names of “G-d,” “L-rd,” or “J-sus Chr-st?”

Throughout the prophetic writings, this declaration from our Heavenly Father emerges with perfect clarity. He declares His Name **Yahweh** to be of vital importance to His worship. He defines and interprets His revealed, personal Name for His people. He leaves no shadow of lingering doubt where His Sacred Name is concerned. He has even made it a foremost part of His holy and righteous Law.

Do educated preachers find it so difficult to accept this truth and proclaim it because they fear an adverse reaction from their congregations? Where is the faith that comes through the Holy Spirit? Should we not have faith that our Heavenly Father will give His support as we fearlessly proclaim the Truth He has revealed in the inspired Scriptures? Perfect love for Yahweh will cast out fear, 1 John 4:18. Remember that **blessings** are received in the Sacred Name of our Heavenly Father, while **curses** are poured out upon those who are disobedient. Please read Deuteronomy 28. Now notice verse 10, ***“And all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of Yahweh; and they shall be afraid of you.”***

As ministers of Yahweh, it is imperative that we preach only what is Bible Truth. We are cautioned against using any devious methods to support the teaching of an unscriptural doctrine. Jeremiah the prophet was confronted by a similar situation such as we in the Assemblies of Yahweh face today. Jeremiah predicted widespread re-

jection of the Sacred Name would take place in the latter days. Prayerfully consider the passage found in Jeremiah 23:20-29.

“The anger of Yahweh shall not return, until he has executed, and till he has performed the intents of his heart: in the latter days you shall understand it perfectly. I sent not these prophets, yet they ran: I spoke not to them, yet they prophesied. But if they had stood in my council, then they would have caused my people to hear my words, and would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their doings.

“Am I an Elohim at hand, says Yahweh, and not an Elohim afar off? Can any hide himself in secret places so that I shall not see him? says Yahweh. Do not I fill heaven and earth? says Yahweh. I have heard what the prophets have said, that prophesy lies in my name, saying, I have dreamed, I have dreamed. How long shall this be in the heart of the prophets that prophesy lies, even the prophets of the deceit of their own heart? That think to cause my people to forget my name by their dreams which they tell every man to his neighbor, as their fathers forgot my name for Baal. The prophet that has a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that has my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the straw to the wheat? says Yahweh. Is not my word like fire? says Yahweh; and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

Do you clearly see the importance that our Heavenly Father attaches to His Name and His directive that His prophets (His ministers) preach only in the Name of Yahweh?

Where will you hide in the day of judgment? Yahweh says there is no place to escape the tribulation except in the shelter of His Truth. Please see also Proverbs 18:10, *“The name of Yahweh is a strong tower;*

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The righteous runs into it, and is safe.” His Word (meaning the Bible) is like a fire burning up the dross. His Word is like a hammer that breaks the stony places (stony hearts, if you please) in pieces, until any opposition to His Truth has been crushed.

It is the author’s humble plea that you will manifest a sincere desire to serve our Heavenly Father and humbly submit yourself to His Word. Prayerfully read Malachi 2:1-10. If you apply it, this passage will give you incentive to obey.

“And now, O you priests, this commandment is for you. If you will not hear, and if you will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, says Yahweh of hosts, then will I send the curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings; yes, I have cursed them already, because you do not lay it to heart. Behold, I will rebuke your seed, and will spread dung

upon your faces, even the dung of your feasts; and you shall be taken away with it. And you shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant may be with Levi, says Yahweh of hosts. My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him that he might fear; and he feared me, and stood in awe of my name. The law of truth was in his mouth, and unrighteousness was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many away from iniquity. For the priest’s lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth; for he is the messenger of Yahweh of hosts. But you have turned aside out of the way; you have caused many to stumble in the law; you have corrupted the covenant of Levi, says Yahweh of hosts. Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as you have not kept my ways, but have had respect of persons in the law.

“Have we not all one father? Has not one El created us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, profaning the covenant of our fathers?”

It is our prayer that these Scriptures have touched your heart and that you will have a desire to **proclaim** these Truths of the Bible. The Name of the Almighty Heavenly Father is vital for salvation. There is no salvation in any other except in the Savior’s Hebrew Name, Acts 26:14, 4:12. We must be sealed in this Name (Revelation 14:1 and Ezekiel 9).

The entire Bible message centers on the Name of the Author of the Book. Come to know this True Mighty One, our Creator, and establish a personal relationship with Him without delay. S_NB