

יהוה

THE NAME OF GOD

After hearing the name Yahweh in 'ELIJAH', you may be surprised to not be able to find that name anywhere in the Bible.

This is because most English Bibles follow an old Jewish tradition of translating God's name using the phrase 'the LORD'.

In the ancient Hebrew documents of the Old Testament, the name for God is יהוה sometimes rendered in English as Jehovah - sometimes rendered as Yahweh.

At Mount Horeb, Moses met God in the form of a burning bush and so Moses hid his face, fearing to look at God. There God revealed His name to Moses as "I AM" - which is related to the name: יהוה.

God gave His name so His people could relate to Him, not as an abstract divine being, but as someone they could know and trust personally.

As a result, an ancient Israelite custom is to name their children using part of God's name.

Examples in our story:

Elijah - My God is Yahweh

Obadiah - Servant of Yahweh

Micaiah - Who is like Yahweh?

Jehoshaphat - Yahweh is Judge

The name 'Jesus' comes from the Hebrew name 'Yeshua' which means "Yahweh (Ye) is salvation (shua)".

Jesus made outrageous claims about his oneness with Yahweh. Jesus in fact referred to himself at least once as "I AM".

The New Testament also regularly identifies Jesus with Yahweh by quoting the Old Testament passages about Yahweh and affirming that they are statements about Jesus himself.

One significant example of this is the beginning of Mark's Gospel, which is a fitting conclusion at our storytelling of 'ELIJAH'.