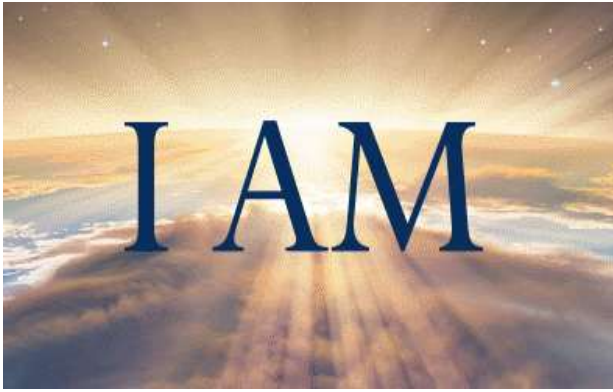




As we read Psalm 9:10 it tell us, *“And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.”* God will never leave us nor will He ever forsake us. As we seek after more and more of who He is, God will always reveal to us more and more of who He truly is. The main purpose for the Bible, the Word of God, is to reveal who

the one and only living God really is to those who trust and truly seek after Him!!!

I am quite aware that there are countless other topics that we read and discuss in the Bible concerning our God and how we are to live our lives as a child of God. However, the Bible, we must remember, reveals to us the Living God for who He truly is. That is the Bible's main purpose for all of us to grasp. It reveals God's love for His most beloved of all His creation, you and I and every other person on this earth who was, is and will come.

The Bible reveals to us how man lost the wonderful relationship they once had with the Living God. Most importantly, it shows us the love that God has for His beloved creation, Adam and Eve, by not exterminating them immediately after they sinned. Instead, He chose to give mankind an opportunity to get back into relationship with Him. That is the God we have.

That is why, as we read in Psalm 9:10, as well as many other scriptures, that those who truly know who their God is and place their entire trust in Him, that He will never leave nor will He ever forsake His people. This is who our God is. He has revealed Himself in His Word. He allows the believer to truly see all that He is and how much He loves us.

God revealed who He was and is to Moses as we read in Exodus 3:14,15. It reads, *“And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD (YHWH) God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.”*

God reveals Himself in verse 14 as "*I AM*." Then, in verse 15, He reveals Himself as "the *LORD*." This is actually originally written, not as "LORD" but as YHWH or as we refer to it as, "Yahweh." The Hebrew writers changed this many, many years ago to give no place to possibly taking the Lord God's name in vain. Therefore every place where we see the term "LORD" written in all capital letters, it is actually referring to the name, "YHWH" or Yahweh.

We see in Exodus 3:14 that God is speaking in the first person and therefore relays who He is by stating, "*I Am that I Am*." This is the English translation of the Hebrew phrase "*Ehyeh āšer Ehyeh*," which God uses to identify himself to Moses. This is who God truly is. This is the most prevalent theme through out the Bible. It is God's self-revelation of who He truly is to all the people on this earth. Will we believe and accept that, that is the main question.

This name "I AM" literally reveals who God is. It reveals the following about who He is:

- Self-Existence: God does not depend on anyone or anything else to exist; He exists on His own. God depends on nothing else to exist. He has no beginning and no end. He always was, is and always will be. Therefore, He simply is, "I AM."
- Eternity: The Hebrew verb denotes past, present, and future existence all at once —He always is. God is always active and present. Therefore, He is, "I AM."
- God never changes in His character, power, or promises. Therefore, He is, "I AM."
- He is the only one who is the all-sufficient provider and who meets every specific need for His people just when they need it. Therefore, He is, "I AM."
- He is above all created things because He created all things. Therefore, He is, "I AM."
- Our God is eternal (lives forever), self-existing (always will be), and unchanging. He remains the same no matter what people may say about Him these days. Our God is our "EVERYTHING!!!" Therefore, He is, "I AM."

In the very next verse (Exodus 3:15), God links this statement, "I AM that I AM," directly to His formal proper name, "YHWH" which is referred to by us today as, "Yahweh." The early Hebrew writings did not have vowels as we know them today in our English vocabulary. Therefore, they referred to God as "YHWH."

"I Am" is in the first-person ("I Am existing"). God is speaking of Himself. The term "Yahweh" functions in the third person ("He is" or "He brings into being") when we speak or call upon our God. It is what we call Him.

We do see the word “Lord,” when not written in all capital letters. This refers to the term “adonai.” It refers to Jesus in our way of thinking. We can see this in Psalm 110:1 as it reads, “*The **LORD** (YHWH) said unto my **Lord** (Adonai), Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.*” What this is actually declaring was that “YHWH/Yahweh” - the Father, was speaking to “Adonai” – Jesus. It declares that Jesus sits at the right hand of the Father and has the same power and authority as the Father.

YHWH (LORD) occurs 6,828 times in the Old Testament. That’s more than three times as often as the simple word for “God” (Elohim — 2,600 or El — 238). What this fact shows is that God desires to be known, not as a generic deity, but as a **specific personal being with a name that carries his unique character and desire**. The term “Jehovah” that we see many times actually comes from the Greek word translated from the Hebrew word “YHWH.” We must remember that God is utterly absolute. “**I AM** simply **Who I AM...**” Wow!!!

Yes, God is who He is. He is not what we want Him to be. He is who He is and what it tells us in His Word about Who He truly is. We must not conform to what we want God to be but we must conform to who He truly is. This is so very, very important. Unfortunately, these days, people are making God out to be what they want Him to be and what they think He is. Even if it is totally contradictory to His own Word – the Bible.

We must take the full Word of God for what we read it as. It is not what we want it to be or what we want it to say. No, His Word, the Bible, is who God is. It expresses what He wants it to say. His pure, unadulterated Word is the only thing that will save us and help us to come back to Him in the correct understanding of His truth. Not what we want the Word to say. Hmmm.....

We must honor our God, totally!!! The first four commandments tell us that we always need to honor and respect our God!!! Not out of fear but rather because we love our God. (Exodus 20)

- Thou shalt have no other gods before me
- Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image of our God – there is nothing like Him
- Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them
- To honor and keep the Sabbath, which really means that we are to worship no one else but Him.

God is our Shepherd - Psalm 23:1-6 - A shepherd represents someone who will give guidance, care, and leadership through good times and difficult times – he vows and gives His life for His sheep.

¹ ***The LORD (YHWH) is my shepherd; I shall not want.*** Sheep are thought to be very “dumb.” They need to follow someone or something. If they don’t follow someone who will care for them they will probably die. We need God to lead and guide us through the power now of His Holy Spirit.

² ***He makes me to lie down in green pastures: he leads me beside the still waters.*** All my needs will be taken care of. I can rest in God’s love and care for all His people.

³ ***He restores my soul: he leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*** God can refresh, renew, and make me come alive, again. He restores my mind and gives me a new way of thinking and seeing things. He leads me on the path of holiness, his ways of doing things.

⁴ ***Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*** God will protect us very every evil but He will also keep you on the right path with His rod (of correction) and His staff which will pull you out of the thickets or when you fall. God will always be there for you – if you let Him be your shepherd.

⁵ ***Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anoints my head with oil; my cup runs over.*** God will take care of you in the midst of all hardships and adversities. God will refresh you at all times with the “oil” of His Holy Spirit.” He has given us His spirit to lead guide and direct us every day of our life. God will supply my every need – to the max. This is referring to a true inner peace and new life in the spirit.

⁶ ***Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.*** – This is simply saying that He is the source of my life, my joy for my entire life. The end result for me will be that I will dwell forever, with Him in HIS HOUSE, in heaven – forever.

We must also know that God is our YHWH Yireh – The LORD our Provider (Genesis 22:14) It means “*The LORD Will Provide*” and occurs only once in Genesis 22:14, when Abram was about to sacrifice his son Isaac. But God... Yes, God provided a ram for the sacrifice instead of and in place of Abram’s son, Isaac. This is the main purpose that God revealed this aspect of who He is as our “provider.” He was showing us that He, Himself, YHWH Yireh would provide the final sacrifice for all of man’s sin, the perfect and spotless “Lamb of God,” Jesus.

God had planned this whole event so that He would show Abram and all of creation, who He is. Abram was obedient but it was all a teaching to truly show Abram and ultimately all of creation, who God truly is. He wanted to make Himself known as Abram’s and Isaac’s salvation. God wants all of us to know that He revealed Himself in and through that ram, which represented Jesus. This was to show us who our God truly is. God is the only one who can, will and then actually did, provide the only way of salvation.

We commonly refer to God, as the Greek language declares His name, “Jehovah Jireh,” In the Greek, it means “the God who will see.” Yes, God “sees” what each of us needs. We all need salvation. God “provided” (Hebrew) and God “saw” (Greek) that we needed salvation. God’s love gave us Jesus who would “provide” what God “saw” we all needed – eternal life!!!

God reveals Himself as YHWH Rapha - “The LORD Who Heals You” (Read Exodus 15:23-26)

God called Himself **Yahweh Rapha** after He healed, not a person, but the bitter waters of Marah, so the Israelites could drink from it. God declared He was their “healer” – the healer of their spirit. God was expressing that He was their salvation. He would heal them from their spiritual sickness, their separation from Him and their ultimate spiritual death. He would give to all men, “new Life.”

The wood that Moses threw into the bitter waters foreshadows the cross of Jesus. Just as the physical wood healed the toxic water, the cross is the mechanism that absorbs all our bitterness and sinfulness, offering spiritual healing (salvation in Jesus) and “living water,” the Holy Spirit.

“Rapha” is the Hebrew word which means “to heal,” “to make whole,” “to properly mend by stitching” and “to repair.” God sent Jesus to make us whole again and to repair the breach in our relationship with the Living God. Again, this is revealing to us how much God desires salvation to be given to, and accepted by, His creation so that relationship could be restored.

Isaiah 61:1-3 and Luke 4:18,19 tell us that Jesus is the one who brings true “spiritual healing” to us. He healed the relationship between God and man!!! Our “salvation” is the greatest healing we could ever have and receive. It is greater than any kind of physical healing. Jesus “repaired” the broken relationship between sinful Man and a holy God. Jesus healed us from our greatest illness – spiritual death and damnation in hell – do we really GET THAT!!!

God tells us that He is our YHWH Shalom - “The LORD of Peace” (Judges 6:16-24)

The term “shalom” refers to “soundness, completeness, harmony and the absence of strife.”

The Lord commissioned Gideon to save Israel. Gideon felt weak, frail, and incapable. However, his uncertainty and fear were dispelled by God’s promise of, “I will be with you” (Judges 6:16). To confirm the identity of his supernatural visitor, Gideon “asked for a sign.”

Witnessing the food he prepared for the angel miraculously consumed by fire, Gideon was filled with even greater fear. He had seen the Angel of the Lord face to face! The immediate divine response by God was this: *“Peace be to you. Do not fear, you shall not die”* (Judges 6:23). As a result of these words, Gideon’s heart was infused with confidence and courage. He experienced peace in the truest sense. Building an altar to the Lord, he called it, “Yahweh/Jehovah-Shalom”, or “The Lord is Peace”.

Gideon could now confront the enemy and undertake great exploits for God. His encounter with the “God of Peace” had taught him that he was not alone. “Shalom” here refers to a “covenant peace” – an “everlasting promise” by God to His people of true peace which is the restoration of the relationship with God. This ultimately meant oneness with God!!!

In the New Testament the Greek word for peace is “*eirēnē*.” This refers to a “state of being.” To be at rest having all your “spiritual needs” provided for. What this really meant was salvation and God’s assurance of that salvation. Jesus has done that. He gives us “perfect peace.” Isaiah 26:3 tell us, *“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trust in thee.”* We stay in true relationship with our God only through Jesus.

One more thing that we must never forget is this: the greatest aspect of who our God is to all those who are His people through Jesus, is that God promises to be our “Father.” But...even more than that. He promises to be our “**Abba**” Father.

The word “*ab*” is the very first word of the Hebrew dictionary. Isn’t that interesting. In the Hebrew way of thinking, and now the way all of His people today should think, “Ab,” our Father, starts everything off – even the very words that we speak. It is a term of deep respect and honor. It is from God that we are made and that we even exist. He is our creator. He is our everything!!! He is the “I AM that I AM.”

In Mark 14:36 we see that even Jesus referred to the Father as His “Abba, Father.” This was implying a very, very close relationship. In Romans 8:15, Paul declares that we can now declare God as being our Abba, Father. Through Jesus, we have the same relationship that Jesus had. We see this again in Galatians 4:6. The Father is referred to as our Abba Father

There are many, many more names and attributes that are given by God, Himself so that His people would know who He truly is. Ultimately, we must know that God is a loving God and that He has tried to reveal Himself to His people from the very beginning. The greatest revelation of who our God is was through the coming to this earth of Jesus.

Jesus was God who came in the flesh to reveal to us who our God is. To die in our place for all our sinfulness and to take our punishment by going to hell in place of all of us. That was and is... perfect love. But...Jesus, after three days, rose from the grave and is now seated at the right hand of the Father. God’s love tells us that Jesus will come back, very soon.

As Psalm 9:10 tells us, anyone who would believe and put their trust in all that our Father and Jesus did will one day be with the Father and Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit. We will be in heaven and then, ultimately, that New Jerusalem with them, forever and ever.

Yes, Our God truly is the “***I AM THAT I AM.***”

He is our “***YHWH/Yahweh,***” our “***LORD.***”