

What's In A Name?

Yahweh is the Elohim
Sunday, February 21, 2010
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Message Truth:

Elohim is the common word in Hebrew used to refer to God. *Elohim* is used to refer to the true God, Yahweh, but is also used to refer to other gods as well. It is like the word "god" in English - it may refer to the true God or to any object of worship. It is thought that this word was used by the Hebrews to show their neighbors that *Elohim* was the transcendent, sovereign and universal Lord, as compared to all the other gods. *Elohim* is plural in form. While the Jewish scholar would tell us this is a plural of majesty and has nothing to say about the Trinity, I must disagree. I believe that the plural use of *Elohim* shows us that God the Father, Son and Spirit are one God. Taken together, Yahweh *Elohim*, we can say our God exists and He reigns over all!

Elohim

אלהים

1. Elohim is p_____ in form throughout the OT.

¹ *In the beginning, **God created** the heavens and the earth.*
² *The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.* Genesis 1:1-2 (ESV)

Biblically speaking, in the OT only God can create. Only God can *bara*. This verb is only used when **Elohim or Yahweh** is its subject. Man can make, but only God can create something out of nothing.

²⁷ ***God created** man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*
Genesis 1:27 (NASB)

³ *Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which **God had created** and made.*
Genesis 2:3 (NASB)

2. Elohim is "T_____ God!"

Elohim is not a god among many; but He is the only God.

³⁵ *"To you it was shown **that you might know that the LORD, He is God; there is no other besides Him.*** ³⁶ *"Out of the heavens **He let you hear** His voice to discipline you; and on earth **He let you see** His great fire, and you heard His words from the midst of the fire." ³⁷ *"Because He loved your fathers, therefore **He chose** their descendants after them. And **He personally brought you** from Egypt by His great power, ³⁸ driving out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in and to give you their land for an inheritance, as it is today. ³⁹ **"Know** therefore today, and **take it to your heart, that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other.****

Deuteronomy 4:35-39 (NASB)

¹⁷ *"For the LORD your God is **the God** of gods and the Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God who does not show partiality nor take a bribe.*

Deuteronomy 10:17 (NASB)

⁶⁰ *so that all the peoples of the earth may know that **the LORD is God; there is no one else.*** 1 Kings 8:60 (NASB)

3. Elohim is used in c_____ with Yahweh.

² **God** [Elohim] spoke to Moses and said to him, "I am the **LORD** [Yahweh]. ³ I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as **God** [E] **Almighty** [Shaddai] , but by my name the **LORD** [Yahweh] I did not make myself known to them. ⁴ I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they lived as sojourners.
Exodus 6:2-4 (ESV)

²² "**The Mighty One** [E], **God** [Elohim], **the LORD** [Yahweh], **the Mighty One** [E], **God** [Elohim], **the LORD!** He knows, and may Israel itself know. If it was in rebellion, or if in an unfaithful act against the **LORD** do not save us this day!
Joshua 22:22 (NASB)

Elohim's Meaning

- He is the P_____ over P_____.

The word Elohim is based on the root Hebrew word for "power" or "might."

¹⁷ 'Ah Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! **Nothing is too difficult for You,** Jeremiah 32:17 (NASB)

- He is the Object of F_____ or Reverence.

² For the **LORD**, the Most High, **is to be feared**, a great king over all the earth.
Psalm 47:2 (ESV)

¹³ "It is the **LORD** of hosts whom you should regard as holy. And **He shall be your fear**, And He shall be your dread.
Isaiah 8:13 (NASB)

¹¹ Make your vows to the **LORD** your God and perform them; let all around him bring gifts **to him who is to be feared**,
¹² who cuts off the spirit of princes, who is to be feared by the kings of the earth.
Psalm 76:11-12 (ESV)

- The One in Whom Those Who Are Afraid Take R_____.

⁷ How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! And **the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.**
Psalm 36:7 (NASB)

- One reason God acts in our lives is so we can k_____ Him.

¹² "I have heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them: At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will eat bread until you are full. **Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.**"
Exodus 16:12 (HCSB)