

# **January Word Studies**

- Yahweh
- Lord
- LORD of Armies

**Yahweh** Hebrew יהוה (transliterated as **YHWH**) In English Bible: LORD

Greek κύριος, transliterated: kúrios) In English Bible: Lord

Definition: The Tetragrammaton is the combination of four Hebrew letters to form the ancient Hebrew name of God, YHWH. This name, the Yahweh meaning, demonstrates God's self-existence and self-sufficiency and is linked to how God described himself to Moses.

January 2: Read Exodus 3:1-15

Reflect: What does God's name reveal about his nature?

January 3: Watch Bible Project Video:

**[Watch: YHWH \(LORD\) Shema Word Study Video | BibleProject™](#)**

Reflect: In an attempt to honor God, ancient Israelites did not pronounce God's name. How do we honor God's name today?

January 4: Read Genesis 2:4-25

Reflect: This is the first time the name YHWH (LORD) is used in the Bible. Chapter 1 uses the generic term for "god". What do we learn about the character of God through this account of His creation? How does it compare to Genesis 1?

January 5: Read Exodus 34:1-10

Reflect: In this passage, God has just given the people of Israel his Ten Commandments for the second time. He has forgiven them for abandoning Him in the debacle of the Golden Calf. What does this passage tell us about who God is?

January 6: Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Reflect: The first part of this reading is known as the “Shema”. It is an ancient prayer that every Israelite prayed when they began their day. What do we learn about the LORD from this passage?

January 7: Read Psalm 23

Reflect: This famous poem expresses YHWH's (the LORD'S) intimate relationship with David. What does it mean that “I am” is your shepherd?

January 9: Read Isaiah 42:5-9

Reflect: In this passage, we see the LORD's promise of a light to the Gentiles. Who is that light? What do we learn about the LORD from this passage?

January 10: Read Ezekiel 37:1-14

Reflect: This is the famous valley of dry bones vision. What does this story tell us about who YHWH (the LORD) is?

January 11: Read John 1:1-5

Reflect: The beginning of John's Gospel explains the relationship of Jesus (The Word) with the Eternal God (The LORD). How does Jesus help us understand YHWH (the LORD)?

January 12: Read John 6:35-40; 8:12; 10:7-18

Reflect: Seven times in the book of John Jesus refers to himself with the words, "I am...". This connects with the Old Testament name of God, "YHWH". Today you have read the first 4 of those statements. Think about how each one helps you understand more deeply who God is.

January 13: Read John 11:25-27; John 14:6-7; John 15:1-8

Reflect: Today, you have read the last three of the "I am..." statements of Jesus. Think about how each one helps you understand more deeply who God is.

January 14: Read: Revelation 1:8; 1:17-18; 4:8

Reflect: The book of Revelation refers to God as the one who was, who is, and who is to come. This is an explanation of his divine name. Jesus also is referred to as the first and the last. After your two weeks of reflection, how would you explain the name "YHWH" to someone who asked you what God's name is?

**Lord** Hebrew אֲדֹנָי (transliterated as **Adonai**) In English Bible: Lord

Greek κύριος, transliterated: kúrios) In English Bible: Lord

Definition: “Adonai” is the Hebrew word for “master” or “lord”. When it refers to God, it is in the plural. Grammarians refer to this as the plural of majesty. Most often, it is used as a title in a direct address to God in prayer. Other times it is used to address a king or an angel. In the New Testament, Jesus is often referred to as “Lord”. Sometimes this seems to be a common title such as “sir”, but other times it refers to his position as God in human flesh. Ancient Israelites thought that the divine name, “YHWH” was too sacred to pronounce so they would replace it with “Adonai” whenever they were reading Scripture.

January 16: Watch: **Names of God in the Bible - ADONAI - YouTube**

Reflect: What does it mean to have a “Lord”?

January 17: Read: Genesis 15:1-6

Reflect: Abram recognizes The LORD (YHWH) as “Lord” (Adonai). What does it mean that God is our Lord/owner. Is that a comfortable relationship for you?

January 18: Read: Psalm 8

Reflect: This Psalm celebrates that YHWH is Lord. Who/what is YHWH Lord over? Does the fact that God is Lord over all creation make it easier or more difficult for you to accept him as Lord of your life?

January 19: Read: Psalm 37:1-17

Reflect: This passage reminds us that God is even Lord of the wicked. How does knowing that lead you to trust Him more?

January 20: Read: Psalm 97

Reflect: In this Psalm, we learn that God is the Lord over all the earth. His Lordship is clear but not everyone acknowledges Him as Lord. How does acknowledging God (YHWH) as Lord change how we live?

January 21: Read: Isaiah 6:1-8

Reflect: What do we learn about the Lord from this passage?

January 23: Read: Malachi 1:6-14

Reflect: We live in a democratic society and are not used to thinking of others as our masters. How does this cultural fact affect the way we relate to God? How are servants expected to treat their masters? How were the people of Israel treating God? How do we show respect for our "Lord"?

January 24: Read: Romans 10:8-13

Reflect: What does it mean to confess that Jesus is Lord?

January 25: Read: 1 Corinthians 12:1-3

Reflect: How does God's Spirit lead us to understand the Lordship of Jesus? What does it mean to say, "Jesus is Lord"?

January 26: Read: Matthew 7:21-27

Reflect: What does it mean to call Jesus Lord? How does it show in our lives?

January 27: Read: John 13:1-17

Reflect: Jesus is Lord, but he is not the kind of Lord the world expects. What does this passage tell us about the type of Lord that Jesus is?

January 28: Read: Philippians 2:1-11

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about Christ as Lord?

**Lord of Armies** Hebrew יהוה צבאות (transliterated as **YHWH SABAOTH**)

In English Bible: LORD of Hosts, LORD of Armies, LORD Almighty

Greek κύριος σαβαώθ, transliterated: kúrios sabaoth) In English Bible: Lord of Hosts, Lord of Armies,

Definition: “LORD of Armies” refers to God as the one in charge of the Heavenly Armies but also earthly armies. It is a title that reminds us of God’s power and might, that he is able to help us in our time of need.

January 30: Read 1 Samuel 1:1-20

Reflect: This is the first place in the Bible where God is referred to as the “Lord of Armies”. If you think about the time of the Judges, where God often used a hero leading an army to save God’s people during a very chaotic time, what would seeing God as the head of the “armies” mean to Hannah?

January 31: Read Isaiah 6:1-10

Reflect: In this vision of the prophet Isaiah, we see a powerful God surrounded by the armies of heaven. What does this vision teach us about the “Lord of Armies”?