



# Songs for the Kindevoted

“More and more is the conviction forced upon my heart that every man must traverse the territory of the Psalms himself if he would know what a goodly land they are. They flow with milk and honey, but not to strangers; they are only fertile to lovers of their hills and vales. None but the Holy Spirit can give a man the key to the Treasury of David; and even he gives it rather to experience than to study. Happy he who for himself knows the secret of the Psalms.”

C. H. Spurgeon, *The Treasury of David*

יְהוָה

# Exodus 3:14-15

And God said to Moses, “**I am that I am.**” And he said, “So you must say to the sons of Israel: ‘**I am** sent me to you.’ ” And God said again to Moses, “So you must say to the sons of Israel: ‘**Yahweh**, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever, and this is my memorial from generation to generation.’ ”

# Exodus 3:14-15

אֶהְיֶה

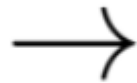
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יְהוָה

hyh

היה

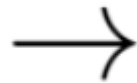
to be



Yih'yeh

יְהִי־


he who causes to be

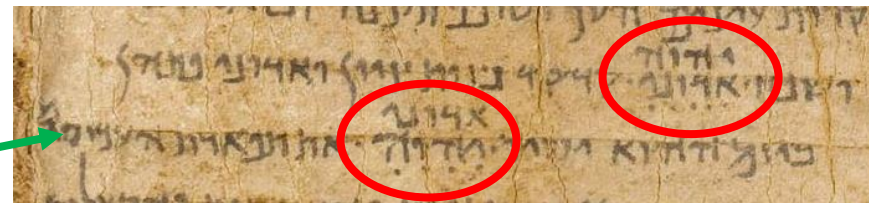


Yah'weh

יְהוָה



- Kuntillet Ajrud inscriptions
- Mesha Stele (Moabite Stone): paleo-Hebrew/Canaanite
- Lachish: **𐤑𐤕𐤕**
- Elephantine: **יהה, יהו**
- Simeon the Just dies
- The Great Isaiah Scroll 
- Septuagint translation of Lev. 24:16, uses **κύριος** (Lord)
- Qumran: **IAΩ** in several places
- Judas Maccabeus commands the Name be used in contracts. Sadducees continue this emphasis



- Christian manuscripts: consistently κυριος
- Nahal Hever Greek scrolls: paleo-Hebrew for the Name
- Hexapla fragments: ΠΙΠΙ, Greek letters based on יהוה
- Jerome records Ια and Ιαω. The Vulgate uses **Dominus**
- Theodoret of Cyrrhus: mentions Samaritan use of Ιαβε
- Luther: **HERR** or **HErr**
- Calvin: **Jehovah**
- Wycliffe: **LORD**, KJV follows with **LORD**
- 1901 ASV: **Jehovah** (chickened out in 1952)
- 1966 NJB: **Yahweh** (chickened out in 2019)



# Pronunciation

1. Is the final letter voiced?
2. Is *waw* a vowel or consonant?
3. Is it *waw* or *vav*?

# Imaging God

- Elijah: Eliyyah אֱלִיָּהּ ↔ Eliyyahu אֱלִיָּהוּ
- Hezekiah: Hiz'qiyyah חִזְקִיָּהּ ↔ Hiz'qiyyahu חִזְקִיָּהוּ
- Isaiah: Y'sha'yahu יֵשַׁעְיָהוּ
- Jonathan: Yonatan יוֹנָתָן ↔ Y'honatan יְהוֹנָתָן (↔ N'tan'yahu נְתַנְיָהוּ)
- Joshua Y'hoshua יְהוֹשֻׁעַ ↔ Yeshua יֵשׁוּעַ

# Why we use Yahweh

1. Fairly well attested
2. It is a **Name**, not a title
3. If one form were required, the Spirit would have preserved it perfectly

# Lessons learned

1. Translation can come with “fuzzy” edges, yet retain its accuracy
2. Scholarship will improve – be patient!
3. Sensitivity to uncomfortable readers without compromising