

# *God of the Impossible*

## Knowing God Message Series Week 2

Genesis 17:1-2

January 3, 2021

### A. What does El Shaddai mean?

- “El” is the singular form of Elohim which refers to God as the all-powerful Creator God.
- “Shaddai” comes from the root word Shad which literally means “breast.”
- “Shad” is used to signify the supply of nourishment needed to supply life.
- When “El” is linked with “Shaddai,” it would signify the One who nourishes and supplies.

**Answer: El Shaddai is God all-powerful and God all-sufficient.**

“Thus, two divine qualities are implied in the name El Shaddai. God is both the strong One who is able to deliver, and the tender One who nourishes and satisfies...Some feel that the term ‘All-sufficient’ would be a better translation.”

Elmer L. Towns, *My Father’s Names*, Regal Books,  
Ventura, CA, 1991, p. 46.

## **B. Why does God reveal Himself to Abram as El Shaddai?**

- Genesis 12:1-2, God gives Abram a promise.
- Genesis 15:1-4, Abram doubts God's promise.
- Genesis 16:1-4, Abram and Sarai try to help God with His promise.
- Genesis 17:1-4, God reveals Himself to Abram as El Shaddai.

**Answer: God is communicating to Abram that because He is El Shaddai, He can and will fulfill His promise.**

“God doesn't need human methodology to help facilitate a divine plan.”

Tony Evans, *The Power of God's Names*, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, Oregon, 2014, p. 192.

**C. Why do we need to remember God is El Shaddai as we go into 2021?**

**Answer:**

- 1. Because He can and will fulfill His promises—nothing is too hard for Him.**

“I am not only in control of all things, but I always keep my Word. No obstacle can keep My word from coming to pass. I am not bound by the laws of nature or fettered by any man. I can do anything at any time. There are no mountains too high for Me, no valleys too low, no rivers or oceans too wide. When I say something is going to be done, it is already done. Nothing can stop My promise. I am *El Shaddai*—all-powerful, all-sufficient keeper of my promises. I guarantee My word.”

David Wilkerson, *Knowing God by Name*, Chosen Books, Bloomington, MN, 2003, p. 21.

- 2. Because He can and will supply all our needs.**  
(Philippians 4:19)

“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

-Jesus, 2 Corinthians 12:9

“Jesus brings to us the inexhaustible riches of God. He provides the water and the bread of life. If you would know God as El Shaddai, you must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.”

Ken Hemphill, *The Names of God*, B&H Publishing, Nashville, TN, 2001, p. 58.

**Response:**

Since God is El Shaddai (all-powerful), I am going to stop trying to control the outcome of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Instead, I am going to trust El Shaddai to \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in 2021.

Since God is El Shaddai (all-sufficient), I will, by faith, trust that His grace will be sufficient for me in the midst of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.