

Elohim: God, Mighty Creator

אלהים

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Text: Gen. 1:1¹

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Series: The Names of God

Introduction: Elohim is found in the Old Testament over 2500 times. It is in the first sentence of the Bible, “In the beginning God [Elohim]...” (Gen. 1:1).

Meaning

Elohim is the plural of the term *El*. It’s plural form is used not to indicate a belief in many gods, but in the superlative majesty and greatness of the one true God.

This ancient name of God points to God’s creative power and sovereignty. He is dependent on no one and nothing outside Himself.

We on the other hand, are completely dependent on God whether we acknowledge it or not. At all times, we are sustained by the sheer mercy of God.

Jesus is Elohim

Jesus is revealed functionally in the New Testament to be Elohim of the Old Testament.

- **Hebrews 1:3**, “He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he [Jesus] upholds the universe by the word of his power.” Elohim upholds all things in the Old Testament. Christ is Elohim.
- **John 1:1-3**, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.”
- **Colossians 1:14-16**, speaking of Christ, Paul says, “in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

¹ Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture is from the *English Standard Version* of the Bible.

- **It is this Elohim that died for you on the Cross**

Implications of the name Elohim

- All human life is valuable because it is made in the image of Elohim.
- We should appreciate the wonder and majesty of all that Elohim / Jesus made.
- As you consider your life, remember that you are here by the creative power of Elohim, and you are infinitely valuable to Him.
 - **Psalm 100:3**, “Know that the LORD, He is God [**Elohim**]; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture” (NKJV).
- God as infinite Creator promises to take care of you.
 - **Matthew 6:25-27, 31-33**, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?... 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”
- Elohim never changes.
 - **Psalm 102:25-27**, “Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. 26 They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, 27 but you are the same, and your years have no end.”
- Promises – promises are only as good as the people who make them. Like the child who promises to eat his vegetables if you will only give him the big candy bar right now. Salespeople promise the moon just to make a sale.
 - But when it comes to Elohim keeping His promises, He is not like His flawed creatures. He is absolutely reliable and completely trustworthy.
 - Not only that, but He has infinite resources to help you and to accomplish His will in your life.
 - (1.) **Isaiah 40:28-31**, “Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. 30 Even youths shall faint and be weary, and

young men shall fall exhausted; 31 but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”

(2.) **Isaiah 41:10**, “fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand”.

Conclusion: So how should you pray, using God’s Name, Elohim?

- Give thanks for the infinite majesty and power of God that brought you and all things into existence.
- Thank Him that though through sin we marred the image of God, through Christ He is doing a work of new creation in us and restoring us!
- Ask God to help you to treat all mankind with dignity, since they are made in the image of God.
- Seek to fulfill your purpose in Christ.
- Trust the infinite God to empower you to do His will.