

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: Psalm 8:1 “O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens”

Quote: “Upon describing God’s greatness, Job rightfully exclaimed, “Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, and how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?” 26:14

Soon after a married couple learns that they will have a baby, the debate begins over what they will name the child if it is a boy or a girl. There is never a shortage of suggestions from relatives and friends, and the influences upon the final choice vary from culture to culture. One thing is certain. Names are one important tool for identifying individuals, or at least narrowing the pool down to a smaller number of people who share the same name. All of this is said merely to point out that names are merely a starting point, a “search prompt” that leads to a particular person whose birthplace, age, marital status, children, distinguishing characteristics and accomplishments set him or her apart from others.

“Throughout Scripture God reveals Himself to us through His names. The meanings behind God’s names reveal the central personality and nature of the One who bears them.”¹ God places great value on His names. He said of the wicked men of Malachi’s day, “Your words have been harsh against Me,” says *the LORD*, yet you say, ‘What have we spoken against You?’ You have said, ‘It is useless to serve God; What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, and that we have walked as mourners before *the LORD of hosts*? So now we call the proud blessed, for those who do wickedness are raised up; they even tempt God and go free.’ Then those who feared *the LORD* spoke to one another, and *the LORD* listened and heard them; so a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear *the LORD* and who meditate on His name. ‘They shall be Mine,’ says *the LORD of hosts*, ‘On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him.’” God warns, “Then you shall again discern

between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.”²

In Genesis 2:4, God identified Himself as the Creator using the personal name ‘Yahweh’, translated in most English versions as **the LORD**. It is also by this name that God identified Himself as the One Who would rescue Israel from Egypt. Moses asked God, “Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is His name?’ what shall I say to them?” And God said to Moses, ‘*I AM WHO I AM.*’ And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘*I AM* has sent me to you.’” Moreover God said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: “**THE LORD** 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 to all generations.**”’³

LORD— My Name Forever!

LORD is “a name that denotes what he is in himself: *I am that I am*. This explains his name *Jehovah*, and signifies that he is self-existent; he has his being of himself, and has no dependence upon any other. He is eternal and unchangeable, and always the same, yesterday, today, and forever; he will be what he will be and what he is. We cannot by searching find him out. Do we ask what is God? Let it suffice us to know that *he is what he is, what he ever was, and ever will be*. He is faithful and true to all his promises, unchangeable in his word as well as in his nature.”⁴

By God’s grace, may we be numbered with those in Malachi’s day who feared the LORD, who meditated upon His name and who saw the infinite worth of serving Him. He has said, “Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” We can rest in the truth that “**THE LORD of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge.** Selah”⁵

1 Blue Letter Bible 2 Malachi 3:13-18 3 Ex.3:13-15 4 M Henry; Rev.1:8; Rom.11:33-36 5 Psa.46:10-11; Selah: “pause, meditate” upon this