

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: Isaiah 43:10 "...Before Me there was no **God** formed, Nor shall there be after Me." 44:6 "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God.'"

Quote: "God is not a deceiver, that He should offer to support us, and then, when we lean upon Him, should slip away from us." –Augustine

Elohim is translated *God* in our English Bible. It means "the strong and faithful One." Genesis 1:1 states, "In the beginning *Elohim* created the heavens and the earth." Elohim is also a plural noun. Upon creating all other life forms after their kind, "then *God* said, 'Let *Us* make man in *Our* image, according to *Our* likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in *His* own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion....'"

From the opening verse of the Bible, we are introduced to the mystery of the Trinity. "In Genesis 1:1-2, for example, we read that the Spirit of God—the Holy Spirit—hovered over the primordial waters at the moment of creation, pointing to His intimate involvement in the seven-day process of making the earth and filling it with life.¹ Speaking of God the Father and Son, Paul writes, "He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For *by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth*, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. *All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.*"²

It is the God of Genesis 1:1 Who commands, "You shall

have no other elohims (in My presence). For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God."³ Moses asked of Israel, "What does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good? Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the LORD your God, also the earth with all that is in it.... The LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe...."⁴ In his final words to Israel, Moses said, "The eternal God is your refuge, And underneath are the everlasting arms...."⁵ Jeremiah proclaimed, "The LORD is the true *God*; He is the living *God* and the everlasting King. The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under these heavens."⁶ David referred to God as the God of

**God, Elohim!
Strong, Faithful**

my praise and his protector. He sang, "As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him. For who is God, except the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?"⁷ He declares Himself to be the God Who is near. "Am I a God near at hand,' says the LORD, 'And not a God afar off? Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?' says the LORD; 'Do I not fill heaven and earth?' says the LORD."⁸

Can you rejoice that the strong and faithful One has given you an understanding that He is the true and living God? *Have you ever wondered what your life might be like if you believed in the false gods of other religions?* Can you rejoice that you know Jesus, Who became "God with us," as your Strong and Faithful Lord and Savior Who conquered sin and death?⁹ Do you seek to be godly and grateful by being faithful to obey God's Word just as He is strong and faithful to keep His promises?

1 Ligonier 2 Col.1:13-17; also Eph.3:9 3 Ex.20:3 4 Deut.10:12-18 5 Deut.33:27 6 Jer.10:10-11 7 Ps.109:1; II Sam.22:31-32 8 Jer.23:23-24 9 Isa.7:14; Matt.1:21-23;