

# S.O.H.L.

## WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

*Pronounced "Soul"*

May 31, 2015

## Not Just Another Name

**EXODUS 3:13-15 NKJV** – (13) Then Moses said to 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?" (14) 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.'" (15) 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.'

The reason knowing the names of God will help us trust Him with our daily affairs and with our eternal destinies is that in Scripture a person's name often signifies his character or ability or mission—especially when the name is given by God. God does not choose names for himself at random: He doesn't select a name just for the sound, in memory of an ancestor or to avoid embarrassing nicknames. He chooses names for the sake of revealing things about himself that will deepen our love for Him, enhance our admiration and strengthen our faith.

The most common and the most important name for God in the Old Testament is a name our English versions never translated. Whenever you see the word LORD in all capital letters, know that another name stood in its place. In Hebrew, the name had four letters—YHWH—and may have been pronounced something like Yahweh. The Jews came to regard this word with such reverence they never took it upon their lips, lest they carelessly take the name in vain. As a result, whenever they came to this name in their reading, they pronounced the word "Adonai" which means "my Lord."

Notice that God gives three answers to the question, "What shall I tell them your name is?"

1. First, in verse 14 God says, "*I AM WHO I AM.*"
2. Second, in verse 14 God says, "*I AM* has sent me to you."
3. Third, in verse 15 God says, "*Yahweh* . . . has sent me to you . . . this is my name forever."

This is the name of God: I AM WHO I AM! And may those who know the name of God put their trust in Him.

**SCRIPTURE READING:** REVELATION 1:8

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** "In the name of God, stop for a moment, cease your work, and look around you."