

THE TETRAGRAMMATON

Dr F.J.Steed

YHWH - This is the generally accepted way it is expressed, however the Oxford English Dictionary under Jehovah reads: "It is now held that the original name was IaHUeH"

Other evidence - Grande Encyclopedie : reads -YAHOUeH

The Ethiopian Apocrypha, reported by Basset :YAHOUe

Most commonly read YAHWEH in dictionaries and Encyclopedias

There is a certain writer a Vance Ferrell states that , "There are several names of God in the Old Testament (Elohim, El, El-Shaddai, YHWH, Adon, Adonai, Elyon, Elsur, etc) **But we are not sure of the pronunciation of any of those names- nor of any other words in the Old Testament, for reasons to be explained shortly.**"

He reasons that after the Babylonish Captivity the people forgot their Hebrew tongue.

There was Ezra the scribe who could read **the Hebrew** and teach the people the law, see Neh 8:8,. He reasons from this time onward the people did not speak Hebrew.

Then he goes on to say that it was not until the Massorites about A.D. 900 that they "guesstimated" the vowels for the Hebrew words, that there was no other way to pronounce the Hebrew. So in plain speech he says that the translation of **any thing from the Hebrew is guess work**. No word that is translated is for sure to be right according to his thinking. He states that the Massorites had nothing to go on, **only the consonants which do not give the sounds of the way the word should be**. This is not only for understanding the name of the Almighty but for all Hebrew words so he claims. If this is a fact then the basis for the understanding and belief in the Scriptures is **very shaky and** pure guesswork and could be any thing.

But is he correct, did they have any understanding at all? Were **there any guides to follow?** Josephus the Jewish historian tells us that **there were 72 men who translated the Hebrew text into Greek at Alexandria, Egypt in the third cent. B.C. Approx. 270 B.C. For this to take place the scribes must have understood the Hebrew text**. It is evident from the works of Josephus that the Scriptures of the day of Ezra and Nehemiah were taken by him at the destruction of Jerusalem and taken to Rome by Titus A.D.70 later given to the Jewish community.

Josephus wrote his Antiquities of the Jews from these books from the Temple, that went back to the days of Nehemiah, **it is very evident that Josephus understood the Hebrew** in his day. When in 1088 A.D. the Massorites set the vowel pointings they would not have had to guess any more than any of the others did before that time, they had the works of those who had gone before and those who were the keepers of the Hebrew Text, the Massorah were those who took a practical care in maintaining it in its integrity. The pronunciation would have to be understood to read it.

The real problem with the writer Vance Ferrell is that he finds it impossible to know how to pronounce the name of the Almighty, the Creator of Heaven and Earth because the YHWH in the Hebrew are consonants and nobody would be able to say it. Josephus' Antiquities of the Jews ,Book viii chp.3

sec.8;"but the crown upon which Moses wrote (the name of God) was only one and hath remained until this very day." (Day of writing 37-100AD.)

Again we read in Josephus the "Wars of the Jews" Book 5 Chpt.5 Sect. 7

"A mitre also of fine linen encompassed his head. which was tied by a blue riband. about which there was another golden crown, in the which was engraven the sacred name(of God) **it consists of four vowels**".

Josephus said it was still there in his day and it consisted of 4 vowels.

I A U E Vowels YHWH Transliterating them into English

The Hebrew - YODH, HE, WAW, HE these are consonants

yet they also can be used as vowel-symbols, vowel-indicators, or matres lectionis are also found.

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| The | YOHD, vowel value of | "I" (English EE sound) |
| | HE | "A" (" AH ") |
| | WAW | "U" (" OO ") |
| | HE when final in a word | "E" (" EH ") as in 'set' |

SOUNDING EE-AH-OO -EH YAHUEH

There is one thing for sure that the name of the Most High is not LORD for this in the English as Websters Dictionary states- is the English word for BAAL the sun deity. To think of putting this pagan **deity** in the place of YHWH throughout the scriptures is an abomination.

The mighty one, ELOHIM is the word that has had substituted for it the word god, GOD "god" - **THIS IS ALSO A NAME OF A PAGAN SUN DEITY.**

It is time to give the respect due unto his name and not insult THE CREATOR WITH SUCH THINGS HE SAYS **HE HATES.** Read Duet. 12:30 -32.30 ? Take heed to thyself that thou be not ensnared to follow them, after that they are destroyed from before thee; and that thou inquire not after their gods, saying, How do these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise. 31 Thou shalt not do so unto Jehovah thy God: for every abomination to Jehovah, which he hateth, have they done unto their gods; for even their sons and their daughters do they burn in the fire to their gods. 32 What thing soever I command you, that shall ye observe to do: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.? [ASV] Exd 23:13 **?And in all things that I have said unto you take ye heed: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth.?**

We can at least make an effort as a child would to say its fathers name, not call HIM some detestable name.

"Bel, supreme god of the Babylonians (see Isaiah 46). Bel is the Chaldaic form of Baal and is believed by some to be identical with that god. Like the equivalent Hebrew Baal, the name Bel was used also in the sense of ?lord? or ?owner.? Bel presided over the air. His consort was Belit. Bel was identified with the Greek god Zeus by the Greek historian Herodotus and was believed by the British Orientalist George Rawlinson to have been different from the Syrian Baal. As Bel-Merodach the god was connected with the planet Jupiter, associated in astral mythology with the productive power of nature".

"Bel," Microsoft (R) Encarta. Copyright (c) 1994 Microsoft Corporation. Copyright (c)

1994 Funk & Wagnall's Corporation.

In the Olympic games held in USA 1996 It was announced that the games were an offering of worship to **The god Zeus, in other words it was Baal worship.**

The titles of the Most High , EL. is Elohim in all his strength and power.

EL-SHADDAI. is Elohim as the all- bountiful one.

ADON. is ruler in the Earth.

ADONAI. is the ruler in his relation to the Earth.

ELYON is the possessor of heaven and earth.

YAHUEH is the self existent one. This is the name and all other words are Titles showing the attributes and offices of YAHUEH.

[Return to Lifestream International](#)