Names of God - Part 2 Jim Downing

I. Introduction.

A. Let us press on to know Jehovah. (Hosea 6:3)

B. The most important influence that affects the Christian is his concept of God.

1. This is why we are not supposed to make graven images.

2. Any concept of God that one has is limited. God is greater than what one's mind might exhaust. (Ephesians 3:20)

II. God is Jehovah.

A. Jehovah's self-description. (Isaiah 40-46)

1. God is the first and the last.

2. There is no God beside Him.

3. God is Creator throughout the Bible. (Psalm 33)

4. God writes history in advance. God is everywhere all the time and can see all things in the past and future all at a glance.

5. God wants to help man - this is His great interest.

a. God has equipped all kinds of people for maturity. (Ephesians 4:11-13)

b. The Word has been given to equip in order to make men complete. (2 Timothy 2:13)

c. The Devil's tactics are not original, so God is equipping men against these. (1 Corinthians)

B. Jehovah is a Spirit.

1. God is not confined, unlike man who is a spirit limited by material influences. God can clothe Himself with anything He wants.

C. Jehovah is Three.

1. God is conscious of being Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

2. Elohim used in Genesis 1 is plural and is used in reference with "us" denoting the Holy Trinity.

- 3. Jesus said that He and the Father were one. (John 10:28-30)
- 4. The Holy Spirit is shown to be God. (Acts 5:3)
- 5. At Jesus' baptism all Three Persons of the Trinity appeared. (Matthew 3)
- D. Jehovah is omnipotent all-powerful. (Romans 1)
 - 1. The perfect timing of the stars shows this.
 - 2. God holds all things together. (Colossians 1:16)
 - 3. If God takes His power away from a place, it will burn out. (2 Peter)
- E. Jehovah is omniscient.
- F. Jehovah is omnipresent.
- G. Jehovah is a Personality.

1. We are a reflection of the Triune Jehovah in that we are three parts - mind, emotions, and will. Our life is made of knowing, feeling, and choosing.

- 2. God is rational. (Isaiah 1:18)
- 3. God is compassionate. Compassion is love on fire. God feels. (Psalm 145:8)
- H. The name Jehovah.

1. It occurs 6823 times in the Old Testament and is the most common name for God in the Old Testament.

2. It is first elaborated on in Exodus 3:14-15. It can mean "He who is." It is not a word of the past or future, but one of coming and occurring. It is He who is and He who is always making Himself known.

3. This is the only name in Scripture that is not derived of His works. It speaks plainly of the substance of God. The Jews reverence this name greatly. (Leviticus 24:13-14)

4. For fear of blasphemy the Jews would not pronounce the name so the original name has been lost. Jehovah is the substitute. The Jews had such a reverence for Jehovah that they are sickened when He is identified with a man as Christians do.

Application questions.

1. Summarize the outstanding characteristics of Jehovah. Which ones stand out to you?

2. What is the origin of the term Jehovah? To our best of knowledge, what does it mean?

3. How does understanding the facts of God help us to know Him personally? Spend some time in reflection and adoration over these awesome characteristics and write out some of your thoughts to God.