



**“ROARING FIRE
BURNING DESIRE”**

**PRAISE SONG MINISTRIES
EXPLORES:**

NAMES OF GOD: Diving Deeper into His Essence

AN ABRIDGED TEACHING

**The “graphics” on this title page signifies a “lion” that portrays God of the Old & New Testament (Hosea 5:14 & Revelation 5:5)
The phrase “Roaring Fire / Burning Desire” represents a two-fold message:
God’s “fervent love” for all people and Believer’s “passionate desire” to know God & His Truth**

NAMES OF GOD: DIVING DEEPER INTO HIS ESSENCE

Welcome to the *abridged teaching* of the Names of God: Diving Deeper into His Essence. This teaching is an extension of the two Names of God *visual aids* (77 Ways to Worship and the Hebrew Names of God: Part One and Part Two). I recommend that you visit these visual aids in the teaching aid section of this site.

THE IMPORTANCE OF A NAME

A name is very important. In Strong's the word "name" (#3686) means "authority, cause, character, fame, and reputation". Below is a quote from the Strong's Concordance.

"It (the name) is the manifestation or revelation of someone's character, i.e. as distinguishing them from all others. Thus "praying in *the name of Christ*" means to pray *as directed (authorized) by Him*, bringing revelation that flows out of being *in His presence* "Praying in Jesus' name" therefore is not a "religious formula" just to end prayers (or get what *we* want)! Souter in Strong's wrote, "According to Hebrew notions, a name is inseparable from the person to whom it belongs, i.e. it is something of his essence. Therefore, in the case of God, it is especially sacred (*italics in this paragraph are Strong's*)."

Strong's definition of "name" really reinforces that God's names hold authority and are inseparable from Him. His names are essentially His essence. In addition, God's names are the Word of God, which is living and powerful and always fulfills God's purpose (Hebrews 4:12 and Isaiah 55:11).

GOD NAMES ARE THE WORD OF GOD

There is no doubt that God is powerful, and having a relationship with Him can be very impactful to us and to those around us. Since we know His names are the Word of God, let us look into Strong's Concordance that gives definitions of the words in Hebrews 4:12 and Isaiah 55:1¹.

Isaiah 55:11 "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void², but it shall accomplish what I please³, and it shall prosper⁴ in the thing for which I sent it."

¹ The footnotes in this teaching regarding definitions of Greek and/or Hebrew words are from James Strong, the author of the Strong's Concordance. If a **Strong's definition** given in this teaching **is underlined, this represents the exact definition for the specific word in the given scripture. Finally**, all scriptures in this teaching will be the **New King James** version unless otherwise noted.

² "Void" in Hebrew is **reqam** (Strong's 7387) "in vain, without effect"

³ "Please or Pleasure" in Hebrew is **chaphets** (Strong's 2654) "delight in, have pleasure in, take care of, desire"

⁴ "Prosper" in Hebrew is **tsalach** (Strong's 6743) "cleave, penetrate, then advance", shew, experience, prosperity, of men"

Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is living⁵ and powerful⁶, and sharper than any two-edged⁷ sword⁸, piercing⁹ even to the division¹⁰ of soul¹¹ and spirit¹², and of joints¹³ and marrow¹⁴, and is a discerner¹⁵ of the thoughts¹⁶ and intents¹⁷ of the heart.”

From Strong’s definitions let me highlight what the Word of God states in these verses.

The Word of God...

1. Has dynamic power within itself and exerts this power upon our inner being
2. Produces results that are effective and are always at work to accomplish God’s purpose
3. Divides the most hidden spot in man, the dividing line between soul (man’s personality) and spirit¹⁸ (highest part of man that communes with God)
4. Discerns the inner emotions, thoughts, and reasoning of man (man’s intentions)
5. Comes directly from God
6. Will not return without accomplishing God’s desires for man (this pleases Him)
7. Will penetrate, cut through, then advance to show and allow man to experience God’s longing to prosper man.

With these seven highlights above, one may regard God’s names in a very different light, with much more intensity and power. **We now can see that our relationship with God, nobody else’s, is the most powerful, dynamic, effective, healthy relationship we will ever have.** Nobody fully knows us and loves us as God does.

⁵ “**Living**” in Greek is **záo** (Strong’s 2198) “having vital power in itself and exerting the same upon the soul”

⁶ “**Powerful**” in Greek is **energés** (Strong’s 1756) “effective, productive of due result, at work”

⁷ “**Two-edged**” in Greek is **distomos** (Strong’s 1366) “properly, two-mouthed (having two edges), like a “two-edged” sword with both sides of the blade sharpened to an edge; (figuratively) what penetrates at every point of contact, coming in or going out. [A two-edged sword is an ideal defensive-offensive weapon and was known as “a drinker of blood” (Souter).]”

⁸ “**Sword**” in Greek is **machaira** (Strong’s 3162) “a short sword or dagger; two-edged sword”

⁹ “**Piercing**” in Greek is **diikneomai** (Strong’s 1338) “to go through, penetrate, pierce”

¹⁰ “**Division**” in Greek is **merismos** (Strong’s 3311) even to the division, etc., i. e. to that most hidden spot, the dividing line between soul and spirit, where the one passes into the other,

¹¹ “**Soul**” in Greek is **psuché** (Strong’s 5590) “in accordance with the trichotomy or threefold division of human nature by the Greeks ... the root of the English words “psyche,” “psychology”) – soul (psyche); a person’s distinct identity (unique personhood), i.e. individual personality.”

¹² “**Spirit**” in Greek is **pneuma** (Strong’s 4151) “the rational part of man, the power of perceiving and grasping divine and eternal things, and upon which the Spirit of God exerts its influence; (Luther says, “is the highest and noblest part of man, which qualifies him to lay hold of incomprehensible, invisible, eternal things; in short, it is the house where Faith and God’s word are at home”

¹³ “**Joint**” in Greek is **harmos** (Strong’s 719) “a joining, a joint “

¹⁴ “**Marrow**” in Greek is **muelos** (Strong’s 3452) “enclosed within, from to close, shut”

¹⁵ “**Discerner**” in Greek is **kritikos** (Strong’s 2924) “relating to judging, fit for judging, skilled in judging; tracing out and passing judgment on the thoughts of the mind”

¹⁶ “**Thoughts**” in Greek is **enthumésis** (Strong’s 1761) literally, inner-passion, the emotional force driving meditation and reflection; on their “underlying conception”; emphasizes the passionate idea lodged within, i.e. the inner affections (emotions) driving the reasoning (thought process); a thinking, consideration;”

¹⁷ “**Intents**” in Greek is **ennoia** (Strong’s 1771) “mind, understanding, will; manner of thinking and feeling“

¹⁸ The Holy Spirit resides in your spirit once you begin a relationship with God. When I mention your spirit, I am speaking of the part of you that has the potential for deep union with the Holy Spirit. To receive information on the distinction between spirit, soul and body, please go to the **teaching aid section of this site and click onto the abridged teaching called Triune of Man: Spirit, Soul and Body.**

EXPERIENCING GOD THROUGH HIS NAMES

If you desire to be fully accepted, completely understood and unconditionally loved, then your quest in life, I believe, would be to experience God and continue to deepen your relationship with Him. God's main desire is for everyone to have an intimate, personal relationship with Him. He knows everything about your past, present and future. He created us to be with Him and delights when we seek and wait upon Him. He wants to talk to us, listen to us and help us. People may ask, "How can we have a close relationship with God? We all are unique and how we spend that time with God varies from individual to individual. I guarantee that if you consistently spend time with God, genuinely seek Him, you will begin to spiritually "see" and "hear" Him like you would a very close friend. The more time and interest you invest in another person's life, the more intimate and close you become to another. This is the same with God. My husband heard something that he will never forget... "We're as close to God as we choose to be". Intimacy or closeness with God is a choice, your choice.

Learning His names is getting to "know" God, which helps develop this relationship with Him. The names of God are extremely important because of their immense ability to bring man close to God, to transform man's inner being. As mentioned in the introduction of the Names of God visual aids (77 Ways to Worship and Hebrew Names of God: Part One and Part Two) the purpose of knowing His names is to provide an easy, simple way to focus on God. Taking time out regularly and using the names of God, as a springboard to communicate with Him is a wonderful way to develop your relationship with God. This time with Him allows you to "absorb" the meaning of His names into your spirit, which will bring you closer to Him.

I do have one simple suggestion: ask the Lord to give you one name to focus on for an indefinite amount of time. Study the scriptures related to that name¹⁹, pray using the name, speak aloud the name with a heart of thanksgiving and love for God, and ask God to give you a deeper revelation of this name. By doing this, that name becomes a part of your spirit, so that later when you read, pray or speak out the name; it will have a more profound impact upon you. This is one way on how to "absorb" God's name into your spirit.

If you have tried to get to know God and continually face an impasse, there might be areas in your life that God wants to heal. I have found that many people do not know how to be a close friend and consequently have difficulty with deepening their relationship with God. Their negative experiences in life has hindered their ability to give of themselves to others and/or receive love from others and God. If this speaks to you, then this next section might encourage you to face some of the wounds you still have within you.

¹⁹ **The Names of God visual aids** (77 Ways to Worship and Hebrew Names of God: Part One and Part Two) are in the "teaching section" of this site. These two visual aids **supply the reader with Scripture(s) for each name**.

EXPERIENCING PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION THROUGH HIS NAMES / TITLES

I would like to share how the names of God can become an essential part of *being victorious through our struggles, not a victim*, which brings Godly transformation in us as *we experience who He is in our lives personally*. I had chronic trauma throughout my childhood and tried to cover-up my brokenness by becoming performance-oriented as an adult, because facing these events was too painful. At the time, I did not know how much my childhood events affected me. Once God revealed to me the need to face issues, I learned unresolved issues in life would control and hinder a person. To be “spiritually and psychologically”²⁰ healthy, God helped me purge my unhealthy sinful ways of coping. I learned that even though the events were not of my choice and doing, I still was responsible for the negative affect they had on me. This viewpoint looks at a negative situation, not as a victim, but as a victor in Christ. My main “issue” from my past was “anger” at the world and myself. This attitude was deep-rooted²¹ and stemmed from my childhood. The reason or root(s) behind anger can be complex. Anger can be a result of unforgiveness of self, others and/or God, Himself. God did grace me with forgiveness, which I know was a gift from Him. When one harbors unforgiveness, it can literally bring them into very dark places. Taking me on this journey, God continually poured out His love upon me, which was what I desperately needed. I never would have “experienced” His deep love for me, and would not even have been “aware” of my unhealthiness, if I never faced these issues.

I characterize *facing uncomfortable and negative situations by being open to change within, as “personal sanctification” or “inner healing”*. *During my inner healing years, I “experience” God’s different attributes and titles. Many of His names from the Word of God became fully evident and alive within me*. My spirit took these attributes of God deeply within, I “absorbed” their meanings.

The names I personally experienced throughout my inner healing were:

- **Daddy or Abba:** No parent or guardian is perfect, but the Father God is and can nurture and heal damaged areas of your life.

²⁰ **“Spiritually and psychologically”** references man’s spirit and soul areas, for more detailed information, please go to the **“teaching aids”** section of this site. There you will find an **abridged teaching on the Triune of Man: Spirit, Soul and Body**.

²¹ **A deep-rooted area to overcome is harder to purge than a sin that has little roots.** A sin with little roots does not go deep within your inner man. A sin with shallow roots is a minor flaw in your personality that is easily changed. Some of us have deep-rooted areas that began as far back as childhood, so the sanctification of that particular sin, like rage or hate, may take years for its bondage to be completely broken. God knows if our hearts are open to change within and if we sincerely seek to change, He understands the cleansing of a particular area may take time to uproot within ourselves. **Because of Jesus’ redemption, the Father sees us complete perfect and mature. God “sees” the full potential He made within us.**

- **Intimate Friend and Bridegroom:** God, or as I like to call Him at times, Adonai,²² was the One I went to whenever I felt a need to be encouraged, affirmed, loved unconditionally, or needed someone who was lovingly honest with me.
- **Faithful and True:** I “experienced” Yahweh, as a God who never abandoned me even when I did not “feel” Him or “know” Him as a child.
- **God of my Praise / Elohei Tehillati:** 90% of my inner healing occurred in His Presence when I participated in corporate praise and worship. His love enveloped me. He revealed Himself powerfully to me during these times.
- **God Who Sees Me / El Roi:** I “experienced how Adonai always was aware of my suffering as a child, even though I did not know Him personally. Yahweh is sovereign and nothing passes by Him without His knowledge. This is very comforting for me.
- **The LORD my Deliverer / Yahweh Mephalti:** From years of receiving lies from the Satan, the enemy, about my worth and life in general, God came and delivered me from them. He replaced these lies with His Truth.
- **The LORD my Healer / Yahweh Rophe:** God healed me emotionally, mentally, psychologically and, just recently, physically! I am grateful for His miraculous healing power.

In the midst of my healing time, the Lord asked me to take time out to experience being in the “cleft of the rock”. I did this for about three months on a regular basis. This is an example of focusing on a particular aspect of God and asking Him to let you “experience” this part of Him. In this case, God chose the attribute He wanted me to “experience”. Throughout the day, He brought to my mind a picture of being in the cleft of the rock. During these “visions”, I experienced the titles below. God appeared to me as His protection in the “hiding place” and “my fortress and refuge”.²³ In addition, as I experienced being in the cleft of the rock, I learned more about His presence and loving intimacy as I “rested” safe in His arms, another way to look at the cleft of the rock.²⁴

- **Hiding Place**
- **My Fortress and Refuge**
- **My Resting Place**

²² **“Adonai”** is a Hebrew personal name of the Trinity that mean “my LORD”. I love to use this name along with the name **“Yahweh” (LORD)** instead of the general term “God”. Please refer to **the teaching aids section of this site for the visual aid titled Hebrew Names of God: Part One and Part Two** for more detailed information. The Hebrew language is precious to me because it was the first language God used to commune with man, to begin a relationship with man.

²³ **Exodus 33:18-22** ¹⁸ And he said, “Please, show me Your glory.” ¹⁹ Then He said, “I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.” ²⁰ But He said, “You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.” ²¹ And the Lord said, “Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. ²² So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by.

²⁴ **Song of Songs 2:14** “O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice; For your voice *is* sweet, and your face *is* lovely.”

After this, God reminded me of what my husband's name meant. The name "Craig" means: "rock, crag or rugged rock, dweller of the crag". I realized that the Lord wanted me to appreciate Craig in a deeper way through this experience of learning about God's deep love and protection for me. Yahweh wanted me to see Craig as my "Jesus in the flesh." During those difficult years, Craig and I became closer. It wasn't easy but those hard, difficult, challenging years can either break or bond a couple. God was the center of our love for each other; and as a result, we Yahweh blessed us greatly during and after this time.

I strongly recommend everyone to face any issue in their lives that may be the reason for their inability to grow with God. If you repeatedly "bury" things in your life that keep you from growing, you are the main person that is negatively affected; in addition, God grieves for the lack of the deep relationship He knows you could have with Him. He desires for you to learn and experience more of who He is – His essence – His names

Finally, I want to mention that I continually "experience" God as **"The Lord that Sanctifies" (Yahweh Mekaddishkem)**. I came out of this long-term journey with Him a completely different person. My unfortunate events in life brought me closer to God, something I deeply treasure. I never would want to lose this precious gift of knowing God more deeply. When life brings on hurts, anger, bitterness, the list goes on, please see this as an opportunity to get closer to God. I have learned to be open for God to teach me and sanctify me, especially when life comes at me hard. Last year I had cancer and learned so much from that. I can say I am not the same person I was before the sickness came. In Romans 8:28 it states that we know that all things work together for good to those that love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. May you fall deeply in love with God and "experience" this Scripture in your life always. May you learn more of God through His names and receive healing from experiencing who He is in your life.

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY OF GOD RENAMING PEOPLE

The Bible has examples of God renaming people, which I found relevant for this abridged teaching on the names of God. In the Old Testament Jacob's name, which means "supplanter" (one who takes the place of someone or something that was there first), represented how he usurped his older brother, Esau's, inheritance. After wrestling with an angel of God, Jacob received a new name from God, "Israel". Genesis 32:28 states, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men²⁵, and have prevailed²⁶." As one can see, Jacob received a new name because of his perseverance with God and in the end he prevailed.

²⁵ **"you have struggled with God and with men"** in Hebrew **sarah** (Strong's 8280) in general means "to persist, exert oneself, persevere"; "he persevered with God"

²⁶ **"Prevailed"** in Hebrew is **yakol** (Strong's 3201) in general means "to be able, have power, prevail and endure"

Another Old Testament example was God replacing the name of Abram, which means, “exalted father”, with the new name of Abraham, meaning “father of a multitude”. Abraham’s wife, Sarai, a name that means “princess”, received the new name of Sarah, which means “mother of nations”. Both of their new names represented their new, defined roles and destinies with God.

In the New Testament God gave his disciple, Simon, the name of “Peter”, which means “rock” (Matthew 16:13-20²⁷). Peter received this name because he stated that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God, which the Father God revealed to Peter. The new name “Peter” (rock) represented the building or beginning of the Christian church. My pastor, Jerry Stewart, at Gospel Outreach in Georgia, just preached about the passage of Simon receiving his new name of Peter and expounded upon it. Pastor Jerry stated the foundation of the “church” involved the act of “hearing” God as Peter did. The people of God are the church and we are to strive to “hear” God, which comes back to having a close relationship with Him. Peter received a new name because he was close to God and heard Him.

Finally, Jesus gave a new name to James and John, sons of Zebedee. Some refer this new name as a “nickname”. This name was “Boanerges” which signifies “Sons of Thunder” (Mark 3:17). Upon researching this example of renaming James and John, I came across some commentators who concluded this new name represents the brother’s temper and quick judgements on others (you can find an example in Luke 9:49-56). I believe that this example reveals unrefined zeal; however, Jesus knew their passion would be refined in their days ahead and this new name of “Sons of Thunder” would positively characterize them in the future.

Only these three disciples, Peter, James and John, received a new name from Jesus and were the closest to Him during His time on earth. Jesus chose them to be with Him at three very significant events in the Bible: the daughter of Jairus’ resurrection (Mark 5:37 and Luke 8:51); the transfiguration (Matthew 17:1 and Mark 9:2); and the Garden of Gethsemane. It is noteworthy to state that all of the disciples were with Jesus at the Garden of Gethsemane, except Judas; however, when Jesus’ praying intensified, He preferred to be only with special close friends. It was at this most difficult time when Jesus called Peter, James and John to be with Him (Matthew 26:36-46 & Mark 14:32-42).

I have pondered on the fact that Jesus desired to have His close friends nearby to witness and share: 1) the great miracle of a resurrection, 2) His spiritual transfiguration²⁸, and 3) one of His

²⁷ **Matthew 16:13-20** “¹³ When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” ¹⁴ So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, ***Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.*** ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are ***Peter***, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then He commanded His disciples that they should tell no one that He was Jesus the Christ. ²⁸ **Matthew 17:1** “His (Jesus’) face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as light”

deepest sorrowful times²⁹. These three, Peter, James and John, were intimate friends of Jesus because they spent a lot of time with Him, conversed frequently with Him, cared deeply for him, shared their lives with Him and were honest and open with Him. This devotion to Jesus characterized a close, intimate friendship with Him. The God of this Universe desires this type of relationship with all of us. This astounds me! I, too, desire to share myself with God and to share in His joy and suffering. There is no better place than to be with the Lord. When we are communing with God, we are under His will. Hearing His voice, receiving His direction, and learning about Him will keep us on track. Having God in the center in our lives³⁰, will keep us in His peace no matter what we go through. Let me restate this again: *our relationship with God, nobody else's, is the most powerful, dynamic, effective, healthy relationship we will ever have.*

From these Biblical examples of people receiving new names from God, it appears that *at times when God sets apart others or just desires to bless others, He gives a new name to them.* Isaiah 56:5³¹ God gives an everlasting name to those who chose Him and held fast His covenant. Isaiah 62:2³² speaks of God giving His people a new name.

Peter received the new title of Jesus, “Son of the Living God”, from the Father God. That is an example of Peter being very close to the Father. I am sure Peter wanted to know exactly who Jesus was and inquired the Father God about this. He was open to hear his Abba, his Father God, and; as a result, was able to speak out a profound title of who Jesus was. How would you feel if you received a new name from God? How would you feel if you received, like Peter, a new name / title of God, Himself! As you grow closer to God, you may hear Him speak out an endearing “nickname” for you or a new title, which will describe something about you that He loves or wants to develop in you.

In Revelation God also receives a new name³³. During the end-times, the 144,000 Jews and end-time servants will receive God's name on their foreheads³⁴. Revelation 2:17 states, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.” In this verse, it is not certain whether it is a

²⁹ **Matthew 26:38** “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay and watch with Me.”

³⁰ I reference **God being the center by “inserting” God into your life and give three focuses** to help *develop a deeper relationship with God* in the abridged teaching called **The Triune of Man: Spirit, Soul and Body**. You can find it in the teaching aids section of this site.

³¹ **Isaiah 56:5** “I will give them an everlasting name”

³² **Isaiah 62:2** “The Gentiles shall see your righteousness; and all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord will name.”

³³ **Revelation 3:12** “He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.”

Revelation 19:12 “His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.”

³⁴ **Revelation 14:1** “Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written on their foreheads.”

Revelation 22:4 “They shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.”

personal new name or God's new name. Whether it is God's new name or a personal one on the white stone in Revelation, it suggests a very intimate relationship between God and His overcomers.

Who are these overcomers? We have looked at Jacob and have seen that his new name was the result of his perseverance and endurance, which transformed him as an overcomer. He was a fighter. During his life's situations, he did not always do the "right" thing, but eventually God got a hold of him and in the end, he was victorious through God. We all struggle and need God in our lives to "overcome" trials. When we are struggling, spiritual growth always happens, if we allow it. It is at the time of overcoming that we may receive a new name! Please lend your ear to Him so you can hear Him speak encouragement and possibly a new name. Our Lord is ever giving and ever loving.

I pray that this abridged teaching has given you some encouragement and insight to the importance of the names of God, which brings His essence into our lives.

**“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the amazing love of God,
and the presence and fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you”
(2 Corinthians 13:14)
Blessings... Judy Zadak**