

KEY TEXT

Psalm 9:10 (NKJV) – "And those who know Your name will put their trust in You, for You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You."

Names carry meaning.

A name tells you something about a person's identity, nature, or authority. But names in Scriptures reveal character, not just identity. To know

God's name means to experience HIS NATURE personally.

In Psalm 9, David declares that TRUST IS BORN OUT OF REVELATION – "They that know Your name will put their trust in You."

You cannot trust what you do not know. You can only rest when you know who holds your life.

To know God's name is not just intellectual; it is RELATIONAL. It is to know who He has revealed Himself to be – and to rely on that revelation in the dark.

And one of the most ancient ways God revealed Himself was through the names beginning with "EL."

This morning, I would like to deepen your trust in God by sharing about, "THE POWER OF THE EL GOD".

The outline of my sermon will be as follows:

- The Meaning of El
- How to Deepen our Trust in the "El" God?
- Jesus: The Fullness of the "El" God

I. THE MEANING OF "EL"

"El" refers to GOO, and in many biblical contexts, it points to God the Father, though it can also refer to God's divine nature more broadly. Let's break it down clearly:

Meaning of "El"

The Hebrew word אֵל (EI) simply means "God," "Mighty One," or "Strong One."

It's one of the most ancient names for God in Scripture — used even before Israel received the covenant name Yahweh (יהוה).

It emphasizes God's strength, power, and supremacy — the One who is above all other so-called gods.

"El" in Scripture

Genesis 1:1 — "In the beginning, <u>Elohim</u> created the heavens and the earth."

→ "Elohim" is the plural form of *El*, expressing the fullness or majesty of God.

Genesis 17:1 — "I am <u>El</u> Shaddai, God Almighty."

→ This is God revealing Himself personally to Abraham.

So, when the Bible uses *El* (alone or in compound names like *El Elyon, El*

Shaddai, El Roi), it is speaking of the true, supreme God — the same One Jesus called "Father."

The difference between El and Jehovah (or Yahweh)

The difference reveals something very beautiful about God's nature and how He relates to us.

Let's look at it clearly and simply:

El (אֵל) means "God," [it appears in the Bible as "God"] "Mighty One," or "Strong One."It emphasizes God's power, strength, and divine might.So, "El" speaks of who God is by nature —

the Supreme, Mighty Oneover all creation.

Jehovah (from Hebrew יהוה – YHWH, often pronounced Yahweh) is God's PERSONALCOVENANT NAMErevealed to Moses.

It appears in the Bible as LORD.

"I AM WHO I AM." — Exodus 3:14

This name means:

- "The Self-Existent One" God who was, is, and always will be.
- It expresses God's faithful, personal, and relational nature.

• It's the name God uses when He enters covenant with His people — to show that He is not only powerful (*EI*), but also present, faithful, and near.

The difference therefore issummarized as:

- El shows God's GREATNESS He is the Almighty One.
- Jehovah(Yahweh) shows God's NEARNESS — He is the I AM who walks with His people.

You could say:

"El" reveals GOD'S POWER, while "Jehovah" reveals GOD'S HEART.

Both names describe the same God, just from different angles — one majestic, one intimate.

Application: God is both El — the

strong, sovereign King — and

Jehovah— the loving Father

who binds Himself to His children in covenant love. He is not only POWERFUL enough to create the world, but PERSONAL enough to dwell in your heart.

(II) HOW TO DEEPEN OUR TRUST IN GOD?

1. KNOW HIS NAME

Revelation builds RELATIONSHIP.

Psalm 9:10 (NKJV) – "And those who know Your name.....

The Hebrew word for "know" is 'yada ', meaning INTIMATE, EXPERIENTIAL KNOWLEDGE.

David isn't talking about head knowledge, but HEART REVELATION.

Illustration: You can know a king by title, but only intimacy reveals his heart.

To *know* His name is to have encountered His character.

To *trust* Him is to respond to that encounter with surrender.

Christ Connection: Jesus is the full revelation of every name of God (John 17:6). To know Jesus is to know the Father's heart.

In the Old Testament, God progressively revealed Himself through names —each

beginning with *El* (from *Elohim* — the Mighty God).

Each "El Name" is a facet of who Christ is —and every revelation invites a spiritual application in our lives or an experience of the character of God personally.

To know His "El-names" is to understand His power, protection, and promise.

Let's look at the *El-names* of God, grouped by His *nature* and *power*.

THE EL-NAMES OF GOD — REVEALING HIS NATURE AND POWER

A. The Nature of God (Who He Is in His Being)

Name	Meaning	Scripture	Revelation and Application
El	The Mighty God	Gen 33:20 Jacob erected an altar after he arrived at Shechem and called it EL-Elohe Israel (God, the God of Israel).	God is strong, above all others. Stop depending on human power. Learn to stand in His might. He is strong when you are weak.
El Berith	The God of the Covenant	Judges 9:46 The people of Shechem worshipped God as EL BERITH during Abimelech's time.	God's promises cannot be broken. God is unwaveringly faithful, binding Himself to us in

			everlasting love and keeping every promise fulfilled in Christ. God keeps His word even when you falter.
El Elyon	The Most High God	Gen 14:18–20 Melchizedek calls God "EL ELYON, Possessor of heaven and earth."	God is exalted above every power; none can rival Him. Submit and rest under His sovereignty. Worship lifts your eyes higher than your trouble.
El Olam	The Everlastin g God	Gen 21:33 Abraham calls on the name of "EL OLAM" after he reconciled with	His nature never changes; He transcends time. God's

		Abimelech and Phicol over a dispute about a well in Beersheba.	faithfulness transcends generations. Live with eternity in view, not fear of the moment. His promises outlast your problems.
El Shaddai	God Almighty, the All- Sufficient One	Gen 17:1 When Abram was 99 years old, the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "I am EL SHADDAI, walk before me and be blameless."	He nourishes, sustains, and satisfies every need. He is more than enough for every need – physical, emotional and spiritual. Depend, rest and trust in His sufficiency. Where you end, He begins.

El Emet	God of Truth	Psa 31:5 A psalm written by David during a time of distress and danger —"You have redeemed me, O LORD GOD OF TRUTH.	He is trustworthy and true. God's Word and character are completely trustworthy. Build your life on His unshakable truth. Let every lie in you, bow to His truth.
El Kadosh	The Holy God	Isa 5:16 Isaiah called God- EL KADOSH during Judah's moral decline to show that while human pride would be humbled, the LORD would be exalted and revealed as holy through His righteous judgment on the nations. "GOD THE HOLY	His nature is pure and set apart. Reverence Him with purity and holiness in thought and action. Holiness is nearness to the Holy One.

El Roi	The God Who Sees Me	ONE (EL KADOSH) is sanctified in righteousness." Gen 16:13 This is Hagar's encounter with God in the wilderness where – after fleeing Sarah's harsh treatment – she recognized Him as EL ROI, 'THE GOD WHO SEES ME,' realizing that God watched over and cares for the afflicted.	He sees our pain even when no one else does. He provides in compassion. You are never invisible or forgotten. God sees you in the wilderness and calls you by name.
El Rachum	The Compassi onate/ Merciful God	Deut 4:31 Moses spoke to Israel on the plain of Moah, reminding them that even if they turned away, God's covenant mercy would remain, for HE IS A COMPASSIOANTE	God's heart is tender towards our pain, moving Him to forgive, heal and restore us through the mercy of Christ. Receive mercy, then reflect

		GOD WHO WILL NOT FORSAKE HIS PEOPLE. "For the LORD your God is a MERCIFUL GOD (EL RACHUM).	mercy.
El	The Gracious God	Jonah 4:2 Spoken by Jonah who expressed his frustration when God spared the city, highlighting GOD'S GRACIOUS, COMPASSIOANTE NATURE that forgives even those whom Jonah wanted judged. "For I knew you are a GRACIOUS GOD (EL CHANNUN).	God's grace reaches where you least deserve it. Be humble and grateful – extend grace to others. Grace rewrites your story.
El Yisrael	God of Israel	Gen 33:20 Jacob built an altar at Shechem after reconciling with Esau, marking a MOMENT AND COVENANT	God identifies with His people by name. You are His covenant child. You are known,

	ACKNOWLEDGEMEN T TO GOD FOR PROTECTION AND RESTORED RELATIONSHIP. "El Elohe Israel" (God, the God of Israel)	named and claimed by God.
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These names tell us who God is in His essence — unchanging, holy, faithful, and powerful.

B. The Power of God (What He Does for His People)

Name	Meaning	Scripture	Revelation and Application
El Gibbor	The Mighty Warrior	Isa 9:6 Isaiah announcing the coming Messiah who would bring divine	He fights for His people and never loses a battle. Be

		government, peace and everlasting salvation as MIGHTY GOD (EL GIBBOR).	courageous, enduring and confident in His victory. The battle belongs to the Lord.
El De'ot	The God of Knowledge	1 Sam 2:3 Hannah's words to the arrogant Peninnah after the birth of Samuel, telling her not to let arrogance come from her mouth because the LORD IS A GOD OF KNOWLEDGE (EL DE'OT).	He knows all things (motives, thoughts, intention) and acts in perfect wisdom. Walk in truth and humility, since nothing is hidden from Him. Wisdom begins with reverence for the All-

			Knowing One.
El Yeshuati	The God of My Salvation	Isa 12:2 A song of trust by Isaiah during Judah's time of Iooming judgment to trust in the salvation of the LORD: BEHOLD, GOD IS MY SALVATION (EL YESHUATI).	He rescues and redeems. God alone saves – body, soul and spirit. Depend on His grace and deliverance, not human effort. Your Savior is your strength and song.
El Kana	Jealous/Zealous God	Exo 20:5 Moses in giving the 10 commandments to Israel, warned Israel that God's judgment comes against IDOLATRY AND THE SINS OF UNFAITHFULNESS. "I, THE LORD,	is protective, not possessive. He guards your heart from idolatry. He calls for exclusive love and purity.

		YOUR GOD, AM A JEALOUS GOD (EL KANA)."	He will not share your heart with lesser loves.
El Sali	God My Rock	Ps 42:9 Written by sons of Korah — expressing deep anguish and a sense of spiritual separation and honestly crying out to God as HIS ROCK while trusting Him amid oppression and inner turmoil. "The LORD lives; blessed be MY ROCK (EL SALI).	He is my stability and foundation in every storm. He teaches peace in chaos and faith in His unshakable nature. Hide yourself in the safety of His strength.
El Chai	The Living God	Joshua 3:10 Before crossing the Jordan River, Joshua emphasized to his people that God will exalt himself	God is not distant. He is alive and active today. He invites you into a living

		among His people by demonstrating His power and faithfulness through miraculous deliverance. "Hereby, you shall know that the LIVING GOD (EL CHAI) IS AMONG YOU."	relationship, not a dead religion. The Living God breathes life into your spirit.
El Tzur/ El Tsuri	God My Rock	2 Sam 22:47 David's song of praise after God delivered him from all his enemies, celebrating the LORD as HIS REFUGE, SAVIOR AND THE ONE WHO BRINGS SALVATON AND HONOR. "The Lord lives; blessed be MY ROCK (EL TSURI)."	God is your unchanging foundation when life shakes. He teaches stability, endurance and steadfast faith. Stand firm on the Rock that never crumbles.

El Bethel	The God of the	Gen 35:7	He meets us
	House of God	Jacob built an	where heaven
		altar at Bethel	touches earth.
		after returning	True
		from Paddan-	transformation
		aram, marking	happens not
		a moment of	just in God's
		covenant	house but
		renewal and	when we
		worship to	personally
		God for His	encounter the
		guidance and	God of the
		protection.	house Himself.
		"And there he	
		built an altar,	
		and called the	
		place EL-	
		BETHEL,	
		because there	
		God had	
		revealed	
		himself to him	

		when he fled from his brother."	
El	The God of Glory	Ps 29:3 A psalm written by Asaph, celebrating the majesty of God's voice in nature, emphasizing that the Lord's powerful thunderous voice reveals HIS GLORY AND AUTHORITY OVER CREATION. "The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the GOD OF GLORY (EL HAKKAVOD) thunders"	God's presence fills the heavens and the earth. Live as vessels who reflect His presence, letting His glory shine through our lives rather than seeking our own.

These names reveal how God acts in power — He fights, defends, redeems, sustains, and sanctifies His people.



2. TRUSTHIS NAME

Revelation produces REST.

Psalm 9:10 (NKJV) – "And those who know Your name will <u>put their trust in You,</u>

Knowing produces TRUSTING. Don't try to trust more – **KNOW HIM DEEPER.**

Revelation fuels FAITH. Faith is not a leap into the dark but a RESTupon the KNOWN CHARACTER OF GOD.

Christ connection: Jesus embodies the trustworthy nature of God. On the cross, He revealed *El Berith* (the Covenant-Keeping God) and *El-Gibbor* (the Mighty God) who fights for us. Because of Christ's faithfulness, we can fully REST in Him.

Trust replaces **STRIVING**.

- When you know El Shaddai, you stop proving your worth.
- When you know El Roi, you stop fearing invisibility.
- When you know El Berith, you stop fearing failure.

Each *El-name* reveals part of His "Name" that builds TRUST:

- When you know El Shaddai, you trust His provision.
- When you know El Roi, you trust He sees your pain.
- When you know El Olam, you trust His faithfulness across generations.
- When you know El Gibbor, you trust His power to defend you.
- When you trust *El Rachum*, you trust His mercy after failure.

3. SEEK HIS FACE

Revelation secures PRESENCE.

Psalm 9:10 (NKJV) – "And those who know Your name will put their trust in You, for You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You."

God's promise is **PRESENCE**: He never abandons those who seek Him.

Seeking God is not searching for what is missing but DRAWING NEAR TO THE ONE WHO IS ALREADY NEAR (Acts 17:27).

Application:

 Trust flows from presence; presence flows from pursuit.

- When you continually seek Him, you'll never be forsaken – you'll find His name proven true in every season.
- Even when it feels silent, His character is constant.
- His name guarantees His presence.
- Make His Name your refuge every "El" name is a room of safety – enter through Jesus Christ.

III. <u>CHRISTCENTRIC REVELATION</u> — <u>JESUS: THE FULLNESS OF THE "EL"</u> <u>GOD</u>

Every "El-name" in the Old Testament finds its fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

He is the living embodiment of all these names.

Colossians 1:19: "For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him."

Let's see how the "El" God reveals Himself fully in Jesus:

El-name	Fulfillment in Christ
El (God, Mighty One)	Jesus embodies the fullness of God's nature, power and covenant promises in bodily form. (Col 2:9)
El Elyon (Most High)	Jesus is exalted above every name.(Phil 2:9–11)

El Shaddai (All- Sufficient)	Jesus says, "My grace is sufficient for you." (2 Cor 12:9)
El Olam (Everlasting)	Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. (Heb 13:8)
El Gibbor (Mighty God)	Isaiah 9:6 directly names the Messiah "El Gibbor." Jesus is that Mighty God!
El Roi (God Who Sees)	Jesus saw Nathanael under the fig tree (John 1:48) — He still sees you.
El Yeshuati (God of Salvation)	His very name "Yeshua" means "The Lord is Salvation."
El Berith (God of	Jesus mediates and

the covenant)	secures the new covenant through His blood. (2 Cor 1:20)
El Sali (God My Rock)	Christ is the cornerstone — the Rock on which we stand. (1 Cor 10:4)
El De'ot (God of Knowledge)	All the treasures of wisdom and knowledge and understanding dwells fully in Jesus. (Col 2:3)
El Emet (God of Truth)	Jesus is the embodiment of all truth and the faithful Word of God(John 14:6).He is "the way, and the truth and the

	life". No one comes to the Father except through Him.
El Kana (Jealous God)	Jesus jealously loves His bride, the Church, calling us to exclusive devotion to Him. (2 Cor 11:2)
El Chai (The Living God)	Jesus is the resurrection and the life, in whom all life is sustained. (John 11:25)
El Tzur (God My Rock)	Jesus is our stability – our unshakable foundation. (1 Cor 10:4)
El Rachum (The	Jesus was always

Compassionate one)	moved with compassion to heal, forgive and restore humanity. (Mat 9:36)
El Channun (Gracious God)	Jesus is always full of GRACE and truth, extending God's undeserved favor to all- even to the adulteress caught in sin. (John 8:1-11)
El Yisrael (God of Israel)	Jesus unites God's chosen people and all nations into one redeemed family through His blood. (Eph 2:14-16)
El Hakadosh	Jesus is perfectly holy,

set apart and calls us (The Holy God) to holiness through His life and sacrifice. (1 Peter 1:15-16) El Bethel (The Jesus is the true God of the dwelling place of God **House of God)** among men, for in Him, God's presence is no longer confined to a place but revealed in a PERSON. (John 1:14) El Hakkavod Jesus is the manifestation of (The God of Glory) God's glory in human form, revealing the radiant presence and

character of the

Father to the world. (Heb 1:3)

Christ is the face of every *El-name*.

When you see Jesus, you see the "El"

God made visible.

John 14:9 — "He who has seen Me has seen the Father."

"And those who know Your name will put their trust in You, for You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You." (Psalm 9:10)

In the light of Christ:

• To *know His name* = to KNOW Jesus (Phil 2:9-10).

- To trust in Him = to REST in His finished work (Heb 4:3)
- To seek Him = to WALK in daily dependence on His Spirit (John 14:26)

Application: LIVING AS THOSE WHO KNOW HIS NAME

- 1. Call on His name daily.
- Speak His El-names in prayer.

E.g.: "El Shaddai, be my sufficiency today."

2. Trust His covenant nature.

- He never forsakes those who seek
 Him (Psalm 9:10).
- When God reveals a name, He also offers a promise.

3. Rest in the finished work of Jesus.

- The names of God are not just promises to claim they are persons fulfilled in Christ.
- Every name leads you back to Him, the "I AM."

4. Witness His faithfulness.

 As you know His name, you'll reflect His character to others. • You become living evidence that *El Emunah* (the Faithful God) still reigns.

Analogy: The 20 strings of a harp Imagine a harp with 20 strings. Each string produces a different note – low, high, soft, bold – but when the harpist plays them together, they create one harmonious melody.

Each *El-name* is like one of those strings:

- El Elyon the high note of His majesty.
- El-Shaddai the deep tone of His sufficiency.
- El Olam the endless rhythm of His eternity.

- El Bethel the resonance of His presence.
- El Hakkavod the crescendo of His glory.

And the Master Harpist – Jesus – play them all in perfect harmony.

Lesson: When you know the *El-names* of God, you don't just learn theology – you begin to hear the symphony of God's character played through Christ.

In conclusion, I would like to close with a story.

Story: "The Desert Traveler and the 20 wells"

A weary traveler once crossed a vast desert, desperate for water. Along the way, he found 20 wells, each springing up just when he thought he could go no further.

- At the first, he found water that was strong and mighty – that was El Gibbor.
- At the next, water that overflowed with supply—that was El Shaddai.
- Then water from a high mountain spring— El Elyon, the Most High
- Later, a well that reflected the stars—
 El Roi, the God who sees.

- And another, where he heard a gentle voice— El Bethel, the God of the house of God.
- Finally, a well that *shone with glory— El Hakkavod*, the God of Glory.

At the end of the journey, the traveler realized all 20 wells were connected to one underground source – one living river flowing beneath the desert.

He whispered in awe, "It's all one river – it's all one God."

Lesson: Each "El" name is a different well, but all flow from the same Living Water – Jesus Christ, the fullness of God's revelation.

"The Lamb in the midst of the throne shall lead them to living fountains of waters." (Revelation 7:17)

Jesus is the revelation of every divine name of *El* –

The invisible *El Elyon* made visible in human form.

Every "El" meets us in Emmanuel – God with us.

Every "El" name - El Elyon, El Shaddai, El Roi - finds its heartbeat in Jesus Christ.

And when you know His name, you will trust Him and when you trust Him, you will never be forsaken.

MY TESTIMONY

The NAMES OF GOD is one of the courses taught in the School for Christian Growth in our church. In this course, we learn all the names of Jehovah. But there was never a course taught about the *El-God*. But that does not limit God from revealing Himself as our mighty God.

I am very well versed with the name - Jehovah. Every day when I pray, I always hallow all the compound names of Jehovah. But when it comes to *El*, my

most familiar knowledge is only *El Shaddai* and *El Elyon* because of Psalm 91:1 and also because Amy Grant popularized the song on *El Shaddai* in the 1990s.

But in the early 2000s, I had an encounter with EL ROI in Genesis 16:13 where Hagar flees when Sarah deals harshly with her (verse 6). The angel finds her by the spring on the way to Shur and asks her where she comes from and where she is going. When Hagar says she is fleeing from her mistress, the angel of the LORD says to her – "RETURN TO YOUR MISTRESS AND **SUBMIT TO HER."** (verse 9) and then the angel promises her the blessing of

multiplying her descendants. Hagar then builds a well and names it EL ROI-"thou art a God of seeing". This verse was quickened to me in the early 2000s when I was harshly treated by my exboss over a Singaporean missionary who lied to her and yet my boss took her side. I wanted to run away from her harshness - wanted to quit. I was hurt and was crying in my room when the harshness of Sarah was quickened to me and the command of the God to Hagar – "RETURN TO YOUR MISTRESS AND SUBMIT TO HER"- hit my heart spot on. There and then I realized God saw all the pain of harsh treatment; the pain of injustice. I obeyed God. I continued in the call of God. And not

long after, that very missionary who deceived our boss, ran away from my boss. My boss faxed us a letter of apology for wrongly believing in her. God sees and knows how to vindicate.

End

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