

our significance is settled : a powerful concept considering all the things in this world of striving, laced with uncertainty that leave us unsettled. We have a new nametag, permanent, non-disposable. Mercy is our invitation to wear it. (Isaiah 43)



We are the only part of creation that is Imago Dei, formed by God's hands, into which God literally breathed his breath of life, Declared by God as "very good. We "do" nothing, he has done everything. For us. We are made righteous, complete, whole, eternally okay. "A new creation."

Says: Elohim The All-Powerful One. God alone is the all-powerful creator of the universe.

God has purchased our freedom. We are redeemed, ransomed, reconciled, rescued by, in and through Christ. God's liberation of Israel from slavery in Egypt – a story within the greater story - our freedom FROM the slavery of sin and FREEDOM TO "walk in the way He walked".

Says: YHWH, God's sacred name, commonly translated LORD (in all caps), no beginning/no end used by God to define himself in Exodus 3. ("Tell them I Am sent you")



Christ died so that we might no longer belong to ourselves but belong to him (Rom. 7:4),

Says Jehovah Raah: Jehovah (I Am) is my (Raah) Shepherd. The name connotes relationship, attention, pastor, herdsman, companion, protector, connected, belonging and so much more. We are His. And in that comes complete care

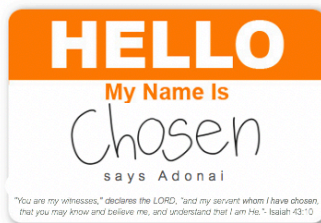


God's "beloved", unconditionally loved. May God open our eyes, ears and minds and give us his "strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God..." just as Paul prayed in Ephesians 3.

Says Jehovah Jireh. Abraham was the first person to say out loud God's name: Jehovah (Self-Existent One) Jireh (Provider), literally *The Lord Who Will See To It*.

You are not alone. In Matthew 28:20 Jesus tells us, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." In Hebrews 13:5 quotes the book of Joshua in God's declaration of, "I will never leave you or forsake you." In the book of Joshua (1:9), the LORD encourages him to be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Says Immanuel: emphasizes the nearness of God. Christ's birth brought the infinite, holy God within reach of finite, sinful man. God came to live with us so we could live with Him. But in addition to walking alongside, He lives in us. The most intimate, otherworldly form of *with*.



God chooses us because of His great love, His lavish love - to demonstrate His character; that we may know Him and love Him - because He is love (1 John 4:8), He is gracious, He is merciful, and He has a glorious plan for you.

"The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth." Deuteronomy 7:1

Says Adonai: supreme Lord over all. "This word (Adonai) stresses the sovereignty of God as All-ruler, absolute authority over life. Adonai authority empowers faith, hope and service ..." RC Sprou



- **Abba**– Father. This name denotes personal relationship at the most intimate level made all the more sweet by the fact that not only are we God's as His creation, but also as His children, adopted into His family.
- Adoption isn't an accident. It is premeditated and proactive. It is a forethought with a plan. It costs. Adoption is the essence of being sought, of being wanted, of belonging, of chosen.
- It brings with it a new name. "They will be called the Holy People, the Redeemed of the LORD; and you will be called Sought After..." Isaiah 62:12