

**HALLOWED BE THY NAME**  
**#13 – “EL OLAM: The Everlasting God”**  
**April 24, 2005**

<sup>22</sup>At that time Abimelek and Phicol the commander of his forces said to Abraham, “God is with you in everything you do. <sup>23</sup>Now swear to me here before God that you will not deal falsely with me or my children or my descendants. Show to me and the country where you now reside as a foreigner the same kindness I have shown to you.” <sup>24</sup>Abraham said, “I swear it.” <sup>25</sup>Then Abraham complained to Abimelek about a well of water that Abimelek’s servants had seized. <sup>26</sup>But Abimelek said, “I don’t know who has done this. You did not tell me, and I heard about it only today.” <sup>27</sup>So Abraham brought sheep and cattle and gave them to Abimelek, and the two men made a treaty. <sup>28</sup>Abraham set apart seven ewe lambs from the flock, <sup>29</sup>and Abimelek asked Abraham, “What is the meaning of these seven ewe lambs you have set apart by themselves?” <sup>30</sup>He replied, “Accept these seven lambs from my hand as a witness that I dug this well.” <sup>31</sup>So that place was called Beersheba, because the two men swore an oath there. <sup>32</sup>After the treaty had been made at Beersheba, Abimelek and Phicol the commander of his forces returned to the land of the Philistines. <sup>33</sup>Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and there he called on the name of the LORD, the Eternal God. <sup>34</sup>And Abraham stayed in the land of the Philistines for a long time.

*Genesis 21:22-34*

The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.

*Deuteronomy 33:27*

How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures . . .

*Daniel 4:3*

Introduction: It seems almost unnecessary to say that God is eternal, since this is the very essence of His immortality, but God’s permanence has implications we seldom consider. That is why it is so important that we understand the Biblical name of God EL OLAM, “The Eternal God.” Once we understand our mortality in the context of God’s immortality, we are freed to live for eternity rather than for time, to exist above and beyond mere history.

I. What’s in the Names EL OLAM?

- A. EL OLAM is the name Abraham gave to God at Beersheba, where he swore an oath to provide for the interim well-being of the Hebrew people.
- B. The Hebrew word *olam* is literally translated “perpetual” or “eternal,” and refers to a process that goes on forever.
- C. EL OLAM, then, is the name that tells of God’s perpetuity and reminds us that God is timeless.

II. EL OLAM is Our Everlasting God!

- A. As the Creator of the Universe, God’s existence stands above and beyond time, space, or anything that we can possibly know or imagine.  
Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. *Psalm 90:1-2*
- B. Because God is eternal, He is also immutable, absolutely unbounded and unaffected by the forces of nature that ravage our mortal minds and bodies.  
Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.  
*Isaiah 40:28*
- C. Those who trust in God gain strength from God’s eternal power and wisdom.  
He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. *Isaiah 40:29-31*
- D. Remembering that we may call God “Daddy” (*Abba*), we become aware of the significance of our relationship with God when we realize that He is “The Everlasting Father.”  
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6b*
- E. Because EL OLAM is Everlasting, His Deliverance and Judgment are also Everlasting
  1. The judgment of God can only be eternal.
  2. The life that God gives can only be eternal.  
[Jesus said,] “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.” *Matthew 25:46*

III. Jesus Christ is EL OLAM In The Flesh

- A. The Old Testaments foretold Jesus as everlasting.  
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*
- B. Jesus said that he and the life he gave were everlasting.  
[Jesus said,] “I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.” *John 10:28-30*
- C. Jesus is eternal, so his power to save is infinite!

Conclusion: EL OLAM is our Eternal God, and we know him in Jesus Christ. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”