

The God Behind the Names

by Rev. Linda S. Smallwood (Ret.)

Scripture Quotations

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Neither the Bible nor its Author attempt to explain the reality of God's existence or of Divine Revelation. He simply states "*I AM*"—because, after all, from His unique and eternal perspective, there's no need to defend the obvious. And He very matter-of-factly states that the Bible is His divinely-inspired Word to us (*cf.* 2 Samuel 23:2; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:19-21).

In the same way, this book is not apologetic in nature or content. The author accepts the Bible as the authoritative, God-breathed Word of God which is "useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16) This book makes no attempt to validate or justify the existence of God or any other claims in Scripture. The author believes that He *is* and desires only to learn more about Him through the name and attributes He has revealed to us in Scripture.

The name and titles of God as presented in the Old Testament represent His power, actions, love, and reputation. The Almighty is not an object to be possessed, nor is He accountable to or dependent upon anyone's subjective interpretation or doctrinal minutiae.

This work is not intended to promote any specific attitudes, group, faith, or denomination, nor does it insist on the use of certain names as a point of doctrine or fidelity to Scripture. The intent is only to present objective educational and devotional information that would assist you in your own thoughtful conclusion about the Almighty and lead you to pursue a more knowledgeable and intimate relationship with that inexplicable, and yet knowable, entity commonly referred to as "God".

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