

The Lord of Your Life

אֲדֹנָי יְהוִה אֶתְּהַלֵּל לְהַרְאֹת אֶת־עֲבֹדְךָ אֶת־גְּדֹלְךָ וְאֶת־יָדְךָ הַזּוֹזֵקָה אֲשֶׁר מִי־אֵל
בְּשָׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר־עָשָׂה כַּמַּעֲשִׂיךָ וּכְגִבּוֹרֶתְךָ:

²⁴ ‘O Lord Adonai (Adonai YHVH), You have begun to show Your servant Your greatness and Your strong hand—for what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do deeds and mighty acts like Yours? (Deut. 3:24)

I believe these opening words by *Moses* in *Parashat Vaetchanan* are by far among the most compelling words of the Bible. First, because they are being said by the humblest man on earth describing his heart-felt plea to the Lord of the Universe. Second, because these words speak volumes about where *Moses*’ heart is. Therefore, there is much that we can learn from them.

Moses starts out by calling *Elohim אֲדֹנָי* (Adonai YHVH), meaning *my Lord YHVH*. In calling Him *Adonai YHVH*, *Moses* is acknowledging His supremacy over all the earth. But more importantly he is acknowledging *Adonai YHVH* is Lord over his own life! If anyone ever experienced the hand *Adonai* at work in his life, in a consistent and intimate manner, it was *Moses*. From his birth right up to his death every aspect of *Moses*’ life was ordained and orchestrated by *Adonai*. As far as *Moses* was concerned, *Adonai* was *The Lord* of his life, which means, *Adonai* was in control of everything.

While our spiritual lives may not be as dramatic as *Moses*’, you can be certain that as a believer in *Yeshua HaMashiach*, because you have an intimate relationship with *Adonai*, there is not an aspect of your life that takes place without His knowledge and without His approval. There is no such thing as chance. For a believer in *Yeshua HaMashiach* there is no such thing as an accident. If we are walking in the fullness of His Torah (teaching/instructions), everything in our lives is ordained by *Adonai*. *Moses* in his opening statement shows us that he recognized this, and he acknowledged that he knew it, to *Adonai* and to all generations to come. *Adonai* must be the Lord of your life. *Adonai* was Israel’s King, but it was not until they desired a human king like all the other nations that their spiritual life began to slowly deteriorate. As a believer in *Yeshua HaMashiach*, *Adonai* needs to be the king of your life! You must abdicate the throne of your life to Him!

In his travels in the wilderness *Moses* had learned that you cannot fight *Adonai* and win. He also learned that you cannot out wit, out maneuver, disrespect, disobey or disregard *Adonai* and succeed. He learned this from his own experience and through witnessing the experiences of others over the years. *Adonai* gave *Moses* His wisdom to be a leader and in giving him wisdom he also allowed him to be a witness of His power and His ways (methods). That is why *Moses* arrived at the point in *Parashat Vaetchanan* of addressing *Elohim* as *Adonai*. *Moses* knew what he was doing! He was about to enter a plea of mercy to the judge of all the earth, a judge who had already found him guilty. He knew who *Elohim* was and he wanted to make sure that *Elohim* knew that he knew who He is.

Do you know who *Elohim* is? Does your life and your actions demonstrate to *Elohim* that you know who He is? Many believers in *Yeshua HaMashiach* buy lottery tickets. They justify it by saying *How will I know if it is Elohim’s will for me to win if I do not by a ticket?* They exclaim: *Someone has to win!* The truth of the matter is, by buying a lottery ticket you are saying to *Elohim*; *My life is based on chance and not on Your sovereignty*. Ouch! The second word out of *Moses*’s mouth is, *יהוה* (*YHVH, Yud Hey Vav Hey*). This designation of *Elohim* is most often described as the *tetragrammaton* and is said to contain the secret name of *Elohim*. It is also often designated as, *I will be, who I will be*. Seeing as there is no present tense in the Hebrew language, *I am that I am* is probably not the proper designation.

Setting aside all the speculation of what the name of *Elohim* is in English; *Elohim's Name* is His Character. *Moses* makes that evidently clear to us in the balance of His sentence where he describes some of the characteristics of *Elohim*: “*great, strong, supreme, doer of marvelous works and mighty acts.*” You see, *Moses* knew them because he experienced all of these characteristics of *Elohim*, firsthand. That was the kind of relationship he had with *Elohim*. He knew who he was talking to. He was not trying to butter up *Elohim*, as we sometimes want to, he was really describing who he understood *Elohim* to be.

We may not always feel that *Elohim's* judgments are fair. But that was not the case with *Moses*! He knew that he was fairly judged, and he made that evident in acknowledging *Elohim* as he did. He simply wanted a reprieve.

Do you acknowledge the character of *Elohim* in your life? If you are a believer in *Yeshua HaMashiach* then you too should have experienced *Elohim* as *Moses* has. Do you always honor *Elohim's* decisions in your life whether you like them or not? *Moses* said: “²⁶*But Adonai was angry with me because of you, so He would not listen to me. ‘Enough!’ Adonai said to me, ‘Do not speak to Me anymore about this matter’*” (Deut. 3:26) In saying “*Adonai was angry with me because of you*” *Moses* knew he was wrong and perhaps *Elohim* would have relented on his judgment had *Moses* not dishonored Him publicly. But he did, *Elohim Can/Will Not* change His mind. Our lives are a public expression of *Elohim's* character. As believer in *Yeshua HaMashiach* we are to reflect the image of *Elohim* to everyone we come in contact with. Does your life accomplish that? We must strive to do so! *Shabbat Shalom!*