

## *El Elyon*

“Most High God”

Translated "Most High God"

(5945, 410)

El Elyon is translated literally ‘the strongest strong one.’ The Hebrew meaning of the name emphasizes an elevation, lofty, supreme, high, uppermost. Elyon comes from the primary root “alah” which means “to ascend, to be high, to arise, to carry up, exalt, declare or swear. It means the highest, top, aloft, above all. “

El Elyon is very different from many of the other covenant names that God has revealed to His children. Most of the Hebrew names for God speak of His character but this name speaks of God’s sovereign position over all His creation. This name describes not only His relationship with His chosen children but to all of mankind and everything He has created, including the angels. El Elyon is a name of office and ownership rather than essence as in Jehovah. Satan aspired to assume His office and position which made it so evil. It is not a sin to desire to be like Him in character (Isa. 14:13-14). Rebellion against El Elyon, the Most High, is rebellion against God’s order for the government and hierarchies which he has instituted among men and angels.

The name El Elyon provides the understanding of our God who has an established order for all things. He sets in order all of His creation. It is no wonder that the name EL Elyon is frequently called upon by His children in times of tremendous shaking and tumult.

The name EL Elyon was introduced to the Israelite people by one who was not an Israelite and is significant in showing God’s revelation of Himself to all mankind as the Most High and Supreme God. Don Richardson sheds further light upon the name EL Elyon. “Both EL and Elyon were Canaanite names for Yahweh Himself. EL occurs frequently in ancient Ugaritic texts. This Canaanite name EL even worked its way into the Hebrew language of Abraham’s descendents in such words as EL Shaddai, EL Gmolah, and Elohim. Elyon likewise shows up as a name for God in ancient texts written in Phoenician, a later branch of Melchizedek’s old Canaanite language.” Melchizedek, a Canaanite, the King of Righteousness, was also the priest of EL Elyon, the God Most High. The second time this name is used in the scriptures is by Balaam who was also not an Israelite but who had knowledge of the Most High God, whose eyes were said to have been uncovered. (Numbers 24:16) EL Elyon reveals Himself as Most High God for all the peoples of the earth.

“In order that the living may know that EL Elyon is ruler over the realm of mankind, and bestows it on whom He wishes, and sets over it the lowliest of men.” (Daniel 4:17) EL Elyon is revealed in the Scriptures as holder of the office of Sovereign ruler over all affairs of men, the world, and the heavens. He is the possessor of all of the heavens and the earth. He establishes nations, kingdoms, rulers and peoples. He sets the boundaries and separates the sons of men (Deut. 32:8). It is the Most High God, EL Elyon, who has placed the kings their thrones, appointed judges, and princes over the people. EL Elyon will also judge and removes rulers from their positions as well if they have not faithfully served, especially His poor, needy, and afflicted. He gives nations their inheritance and establishes the righteous. King Nebuchadnezzar was given a dramatic revelation of the power of the Most High God to establish and remove him as king of Babylon. (Dan. 4)

Man, from the time of the fall, has been warned against the sin of idolatry, placing anything in a position which is alone reserved for God as the Most High God. Rebellion against the Most High God is rebellion against God's order for the government and hierarchies which He has instituted among men and angels. If we are to truly understand God and His ways, we must meditate upon His order as it is established in the heavenlies, and the order which He has ordained upon this earth. As His servants, we must be diligent to maintain this order in our families, our communities and the Body of Christ.

The name El Elyon is always linked with the absolute sovereignty of God. The Most High God is far above all others, supreme in power, rank and authority. He is infinitely higher than the angels, there is no comparison. Meditate upon the book of Daniel to see the God Most High revealed in the lives of the kings of Babylon.

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:**

Gen. 14:18-22; Num. 24:16; Deut. 26:18,19; Deut. 32:6-14; 1 Chron. 29:11; 2 Sam. 22:14; Isa. 14:13-14; 46:10; Ps. 2:1-12; 7:17; 21:7; 24:1-5; 46:1-7; 47:1-4; 50:10-11; 73:11; 86:9-10 91:1,9-10; 93:1,2; 103:19; 135:7; Prov. 21:1; Lamentations 3:35,38; Daniel 4:17,25-26, 30-32,34-35, 5:38; 7:18;22,25,25,27. Matt. 28:18; Acts 17:24-26; Eph. 1:11; Col. 2:9-10; Rom. 11:36; John 17:2.