

El Aman

“God, the Faithful Establisher”

“Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God (Elohim), the faithful (Aman) God (El), who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments.” Deuteronomy 7:9

‘Aman, (539) is our Faithful Father who carries us on His bosom, as a nurse (or literal translation of the Hebrew would be a nursing father) to train and establish us in His ways. It speaks of steadfast faithfulness and shows God as one who faithfully works to firmly establish us in Him. ‘aman (aw-man’); is a primitive root; which means to build up or support; to foster as a parent or nurse; figuratively to render (or be) firm or faithful, to trust or believe, to be permanent or quiet; morally to be true or certain; once (Isa. 30:21; interchangeable with 541) to go to the right hand: KJV— hence, assurance, believe, bring up, establish, + fail, be faithful (of long continuance, steadfast, sure, surely, trusty, verified), nurse, (-ing father), (put), trust, turn to the right.

At the essence of the meaning of this name is the revelation of the father-heart of God. We never lose our dependence on Him, our Father, who will foster us as a parent. He nurtures and steadfastly cares for us as His children. Time and time again in the scripture reminds us that it was He who knew us while we were yet in the womb, it was He who drew us from the womb, and brought us to the place where we have now come to know Him. His faithfulness has kept us when we did not know Him and did not live for Him. It is because of His faithful father-heart towards us that He will us train us in the way that we should go and establish us in all His ways.

A nurse is faithful in the constant care of an infant, faithfully meeting all needs as they arise. One cannot imagine a good nurse who would neglect or ignore for an instant the needs of the young one in her care. The nurse is dedicated to the raising and nurturing of the young charge. ‘Aman, our nursing father, nourishes us with that which we need to maintain good spiritual growth. He is our all sufficient provider who will meet our every need in every situation. An interesting fact about breast milk is that as the nutritional needs of the infant change, the nutritional content of the milk also changes in the exact proportions to meet those needs. His name, El Shaddai, the Almighty God, literally means “many breasted One”.

Isaiah 49 is a beautiful chapter which gives revelation of God as the ‘Aman Father. There is much discussion amongst Bible scholars whether this chapter speaks prophetically of the redeemed Israel, the Messiah, or the prophet Isaiah. Jesus came to show us the Father and all the blessings of the Father come to us through Him. Jesus said, “These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. I came forth from the Father, and am

come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.” John 16:25-28 (See Matt 11:27; John 1:18; John 14:6; John 14:7) All the blessings and intimate love of our Father bestowed upon Jesus our Messiah, are also given to us as He lives in us to fulfill God’s heart in us:

He formed us in the womb to be His servants v. 5
He knows and keeps our name in remembrance from the time of our conception v. 1
He calls us from the womb
On the day of our birth, it is He who delivers us v 1
He has hidden us in his quiver v. 2 (see Proverbs 127:5)
He has chosen (to select and make acceptable) us v. 7
He promises to show us His glory and to be glorified in us v.3
He will make us to be a light to the nations v. 6
He is our strength v. 5
He is faithful (‘Aman) v. 7
He will be our help v. 8
He will keep or preserve us v. 8
He has given us a covenant in Jesus Christ v. 8
He promises to feed and protect us v .10
He will lead us and guide us to springs of living water v 10
He will comfort us and have mercy upon us v. 13
He will never forget us v. 15
We are inscribed on the palms of His hands v. 16

As our ‘Aman Father is faithful, fully trustworthy, and a keeper of His covenant, it is His desire that we who are being created in His image mirror His character before Him and before men. (Ps. 12:1; 1 Sam. 2:35; Prov. 25:13). We must seek to be faithful, steadfast and trustworthy in all our ways (See Prov. 11:13). Moses was described as being ‘aman faithful so that God spoke to him face to face as a man speaks to his friend. (Numbers 12:6-8) God has called us to be His witnesses. Isaiah 49 offers promise of how He will use those whom He has called if we are faithful:

We will glorify Him v. 3
Bring others to repentance v. 5
Raise up the tribes of Jacob v. 6
Bring restoration v 6
Be a light to the Gentiles v. 6
Say to prisoners “Go forth” v 9
To bring out those who are in darkness v. 9

“You are My witnesses,” declares the LORD, “And My servant whom I have chosen, in order that you may know and believe me, and understand that I am He. Before me there was no God formed, and there will be none after me. “I, even I, am the LORD; and there is no savior besides

me. "It is I who have declared and saved and proclaimed, and there was no strange {god} among you; so you are My witnesses," declares the LORD, "And I am God. "Even from eternity I am He; and there is none who can deliver out of My hand; I act and who can reverse it?" Isa 43:10-13 (NAS)

God promises that He will 'aman establish His people if they trust Him (2 Chronicles 20:20) and believe in Him. Abraham "...believed (aman) in the Lord, and He reckoned it to him as righteousness." (Gen. 15:6) "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him will not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

1 Kings 11:38 states the conditions by which God promises to establish us with an enduring place before Him:

1. Listen to all that He commands
2. Walk in His ways
3. Do what is right in His sight

God sometimes gives signs as a witness so that we will believe. This was evidenced in His dealings with Moses and the Israelites as He prepared them to be led out of Egypt (Exodus 4:1,5,8,9, 31). God became angry with them because despite all of the signs they had witnessed, they still did not believe in Him (Numbers 14:11). Jesus is the "faithful and true witness" (Rev. 3:14) who was sent by the Father to testify of His Kingdom and His character. Jesus performed signs that the people might believe that He was sent of God. On the other hand, we must be careful what we believe, Prov. 14:14 tells us that "the naïve believes everything..." We are also warned not to believe words of a gossip in Proverbs 26:25. Our 'aman faith must be in God alone. Micah 7:5-7 instructs that we are not to trust in a neighbor or to have 'aman confidence in a friend, but rather to watch expectantly for the LORD. (See also Jer. 12:6).

If we do not believe Him, He warns us that we will not be stable nor will we be established. "If you will not believe (be sure and secure) you surely shall not be established, because you are not stable." (Isa. 7:9). 'Aman is used twice in this passage, once in the area of belief, and secondly, in the area of stability, foundation, establishment. Our belief needs to be firmly anchored in the knowledge of God. If we are unsure or hesitant in receiving His promises, we will not be established upon His firm foundation, James 1:6-8. "But let him ask in faith without doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For let not man expect that he will receive anything from the LORD, being double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."

At Kadesh-barnea the LORD instructed the people to enter the promised land, but because they did not 'aman believe Him or listen to His voice He turned them back to wander in the wilderness (Deut. 9:23). Because Moses did not believe God to treat

Him as Holy in the sight of the people, he was not allowed to lead the people into the promised land (Numbers 20:12). The trial of Job revealed the crisis of 'aman faith in which he stated, "If I called and He answered me, I could not believe that He was listening to my voice." (Job 9:16). He further stated, "...no one has the assurance ('aman) of life." (Job 24:22) Eliphaz told Job that the wicked man "...does not believe that he will return from darkness." (Job 15:22) See also Isaiah 55:3)

Those who were once faithful, who have fallen away will be judged so that the impurities will be removed and they may be restored (Isa. 1:21-26) As with the Israelites, we bring His wrath and anger against us when we do not believe and trust in Him (Psalm 78:22,32; 106:24) On the other hand, God relented from the calamity that He had declared He would bring upon Ninevah when they 'aman believed in God and called a fast of repentance (Jonah 5:10).

God's Aman Promises to His Faithful:

God has made special promises to those who are his 'aman children. Ps. 32:23 calls us to "O love the LORD, all you His godly ones; The LORD preserves the faithful ('aman)." "My eyes shall be upon the faithful ('aman) of the land, that they may dwell with Me; he who walks in a blameless way is the one who will minister to Me." (Ps. 101:6, Isa. 28:16-18; Isa. 33:14-16)

Our ability to trust in God's character will take us through the most severe of storms. David said, "I would have despaired unless I had believed ('aman) that I would see the goodness of the LORD." (Ps. 27:13)

Those whom the Lord especially established an 'aman covenant included David, Samuel, and Abraham (Nehemiah 9:7-8; 1 Sam. 3:20).

Aman, our Establisher

A particular aspect of God's 'aman nature is evidenced in His establishment of kings, priests, kingdoms, and the very foundations of the earth itself. To be 'aman established by God is to have a firm foundation which cannot be shaken. All that is 'aman established will endure because it is based on God's promise of continuance, His personal protection and sustaining grace. It has the quality of perfect endurance because it is founded in the promise of the steadfastness of God Himself.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE REFERENCES: