

# Homily

## Names of God December 16, 2007

### Old Testament - Hebrew

**EL:** God ("mighty, strong, prominent") used 250 times in the Old Testament. El is linguistically equivalent to the Moslem "Allah," but the attributes of Allah in Islam are entirely different from those of the God of the Hebrews.

**ELOHIM:** God (a plural noun, more than two, used with singular verbs); Elohim occurs 2,570 times in the Old Testament, 32 times in Genesis 1. Denotes God as Creator, Preserver, Transcendent, Mighty and Strong. Ecclesiastes, Daniel, Jonah use Elohim almost exclusively.

**EL SHADDAI:** God Almighty or "God All Sufficient." 48 times in the Old Testament, 31 times in Job

**ADONAI:** Lord in our English Bibles. "Master" or "Lord" 300 times in the Old Testament.

**JAHWEH:** LORD in our English Bibles (all capitals). Also, sometimes translated Jehovah. **Yahweh, YHWH** is the covenant name of God. Occurs at least 6,000 times in the OT First use Gen. 2:4 (Jehovah Elohim). From the verb "to be", *havah*, similar to *chavah* (to live), "The Self-Existent One," "I AM WHO AM" or "I WILL BE WHO I WILL BE" as revealed to Moses at the burning bush, Exodus 3. The name of God, too sacred to be uttered, abbreviated or written "YHWH" without vowel points. Known as the tetragrammaton.

### New Testament Scriptures, (Greek):

**KURIOS:** (kurios) "Lord" Found some 600 times in the NT.

**THEOS:** (yeos) "God" (equivalent to the Hebrew Elohim), 1,000 times in the NT

**WORD:** (logos) John 1:1ff

The Scriptures use many other titles that assign or describe divine attributes to Jesus as God such Saviour, Messiah, Alpha and Omega.