

The Hebrew Names of God

Lesson 2: El Shaddai

- I. **El Shaddai**, translated “God Almighty”, is derived from the word for mountain and stresses God’s enduring strength.
- II. **El Shaddai and Abraham:** God first revealed Himself as El Shaddai to Abraham—*Genesis 17:1–8*.
 - A. God addresses Abram when he is 99 and childless, with no heirs—*Genesis 17:1a*.
 - B. God charged Abram to live his life openly before the Lord and to maintain a life of integrity—*Genesis 17:1b*.
 - C. God stressed His covenant with Abram and promised to multiply Abram’s descendants—*Genesis 17:2*.
 - D. Again stressing His covenant with Abram He promised to make him a father of many nations—*Genesis 17:3–4*.
 - E. El Shaddai changed Abram’s name (exalted father) to Abraham (father of a multitude)—*Genesis 17:5*.
 - F. El Shaddai promises that His covenant with Abraham will be an eternal covenant that will provide him with descendants, blessing, and a land—*Genesis 17:6–8*.
- III. **El Shaddai and Isaac:** Isaac blessed his son Jacob by reassuring him of El Shaddai’s covenant with him to fulfill what He had promised to Abraham—*Genesis 28:1–3*.
- IV. **El Shaddai and Jacob:** El Shaddai reaffirmed Jacob’s new name and reaffirmed his covenant with him—*Genesis 35:9–15*.
 - A. God had changed Jacob’s name (he who grasps at the heel of another; supplanter) to Israel (one who prevails; prince of God)—*Genesis 35:9–10; see Genesis 32:26–28*.
 - B. El Shaddai promises to fulfill to Israel the covenant He had made with Abraham—*Genesis 35:11–12*.
 - C. Jacob (Israel) worshipped El Shaddai there and called the place Bethel (house of God)—*Genesis 35:13–15; see Genesis 28:19*.
- V. **El Shaddai and Moses:** The Lord reassured Moses that He had revealed Himself to Abraham and Isaac and Jacob as El Shaddai in the past—*Exodus 6:3*.
- VI. **El Shaddai and the Psalmist:** In Psalm 91, the Psalmist trusts in El Shaddai for protection—*Psalms 91:1–4*.