

## Elohim: In Pursuit of His Word - His Will - His Ways

**We Pursue His Word as our Divine Inspiration, and our Spiritual and Moral Authority. We Pursue His Will as our Understanding of our Flesh and the working of His Spirit. We Pursue His Ways as our Provisional Pathway to Life and the Hereafter.**

4.27.25

### Week One: Elohim

#### אלהים

A Biblical Hebrew name for God is Elohim, and is pronounced *ay-lo-heem*. Most Hebrew language textbooks inform us that *Elohim* can be found 2602 times in the Bible. [1] This name "*Elohim*" is actually a designation of God and is first found in the Book of Genesis.

Genesis 1:1.

"In the beginning God (Elohim) created the heavens and the earth."

Genesis or in Hebrew, "*B'reshit*," means "*in the beginning*" or "*origins*." *Elohim* appears to us in Genesis creating with merely the majesty and power of His spoken Word. *Elohim* speaks and

when He speaks He Creates. He spoke His Word - this world and life came into existence.

Here is something interesting to know. *Elohim* is a noun, and in the Bible used as a masculine plural. This implies more than one. In this case, *Elohim* designates for us (God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit). Does this mean a triune God in singular unity at Creation? Just a note for us all... the term, “Trinity” is not in the Bible. It is a term the Global Church uses to designate the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as three persons, and yet one God, speaking with ONE voice.

To be clear, some biblical scholars disagree that the translation, *Elohim* is interpreted as the Trinity. However, in this literary intent, the verse refers to plural persons or beings involved in the act of human Creation. When in Genesis 1:26, the Word of the Lord, “*Let us make man in our image*”, we are presented with the most powerful way of saying that God deliberated with Himself when “speaking into existence the creation of humankind.”[3] Only the Sovereign *Elohim Adonai* - Lord God.

As we look further at the designations for God of the Bible, we must also understand the depiction of *Elohim* is not only plural

but is also revealed to us as singular. He is the God of all gods, Name above all names, there is none like Him.

2 Samuel 7:22

*Therefore you are great, O Lord God. For there is none like you, and there is no God besides you, according to all that we have heard with our ears. ESV*

As we said last week, He (God) is absolutely Sovereign, absolutely wise, all knowing and powerful, all giving and all good, at all times and all places. [5] Regarding the Trinity idea, it is important to remember the historical context of Genesis.

As we know, the Torah, or the first 5 books of the Bible are attributed to Moses' writings. Moses wrote Genesis for the Israelites to explain how the world came into existence.

To explain all of Creation by beginning with a dissertation of a three-part God would be very confusing, especially since God spends much of the rest of the Torah, persuading the Israelites to love Him with all heart soul, mind, and strength, and compelling the people to serve only Him and not the wide variety of Egyptian or Canaanite gods readily available. He did all this while directing and (at times) literally herding

the nearly two million Israelites to the Land He had promised to Abraham.

The reality is that we do not have the full and detailed story. It is written in ancient biblical Hebrew, from a time period centuries removed of generations long ago. Here is the point. What we do have is the Word of the Lord. *Elohim* has given us His Word, and His Word is all we need.

The singular and shortened version of *Elohim* is *El*. This name was originally the name of the Canaanite god, but later became exclusively attributed to the God of Israel. [6]

This shortened designation becomes extremely interesting and significant to our pursuit of the Word, the Will, and the Ways of God - *Elohim*. This abbreviation is attached to many words; in fact, 237 times in the Bible. [7] Most are describing of the Names of God:

Genesis 17:1, 28:3 *El Shaddai* – God Almighty

Genesis 14:20 *El Elyon* – God Most High [8]

Genesis 16:13 *El Roi* – the God who Sees

Genesis 33:20 *El Elohe* as in “*El Elohe Yisrael*” - mighty is the God of Israel. [9]

Isaiah 9:6 *El Gibhor - Mighty God, Mighty to Save*

Isaiah 40:28-31 *El Olam - The Everlasting God*

Psalms 139:13-16 *El Chuwl - The God Who Creates and Births*

I Samuel 2:3 *El Deah - God of Knowledge and Wisdom*

Daniel 7:9,13-14 *El Attiyq Youm - God of Eternal Authority*

Interesting that in the Bible many names have God's name *El* attached to them. In fact, *El* can be the first part of a name, or the last part. For example: Genesis 33:20 - Aaron's wife was *Elisheva* - meaning, *God is my oath*.

*El* is also used in Hebrew names as a final syllable. For example: Daniel, Joel, Immanuel, Bethel, Ezekiel, Gabriel, Michael, Nathaniel. There is also Ishmael, who was Abraham's son through Sarah's servant, Hagar. Ishmael means, "*God has heard*." Then there is of course Genesis 32; *Yisrael* or *Israel* – "*literally means God fights/contends*". Powerful when paired with The Genesis 32 passage translates *Yisrael* for us as "contends or struggles with God." The Patriarch, Jacob's name was changed to *Yisrael*, after Jacob wrestled all night with God, and the name *Yisrael* eventually became the name of the nation, as promised in *Elohim's* covenant to Abraham.

I would like to recommend for those who are in pursuit of the Word, Will, and Ways of *Elohim*, a couple of Biblical translation resources that you might find as helpful and enjoyable in your journey. The first is *The Complete Jewish Bible*; translated by prominent Messianic Jewish theologian and professor, David H. Stern. His purpose for presenting the CJB was “*to restore God’s Word to its original Jewish context and culture as well as be in easily read modern English.*” [10] It was originally published in 1998. The other translation I would recommend is the *Tree of Life Bible*. This translation, “*speaks with a decidedly Jewish-friendly voice [...] to recover the authentic context of the Bible and the Christian faith.*” [11;12]

These translations are valuable as you pursue the Word of *Elohim Adonai*, as you are reading and processing what the Bible is saying in its original context. If you do this I want to give a quick tip - do not go out and buy a bunch of different Bibles and translations. Just go to [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com). - its FREE.

Back to our pursuit of *Elohim*! We will read throughout our journey that more Hebrew nouns and names carry God’s abbreviated Name “*El.*” Actually, over 50 names in the Bible! [13] Again, we should ask, Why is this important to my faith and my study of God’s Word? Because this is the first key in starting to

recognize God's derivative in Hebrew names, and thereby gaining understanding that the All-Powerful Hand of *Elohim Adonai* is on His people - this includes YOU. Most importantly there is an evident power assigned in the Name of the Lord.

Yet as often as these attachments are on names in the Bible, we are not just talking about a designation of an abbreviation to a Name. We are talking about speaking and calling out the Glory and the Power of the Almighty the God of Creation, the God of Israel, the God of the Nations. The One and Only - True God.

Here is the final point on this topic for now (even though we have just scratched the surface). Where in the Bible do we hear of the first time the revealed Name of God? Many of you, in the moment, might answer Exodus 3:15, when at the burning bush God described Himself to Moses as - *I Am that I Am*.

In reality, God's first revealed name in the Bible is in Genesis! It is Genesis 2:4, where we can read *LORD* in all capital letters followed by *Elohim* or *God*. This is the account of the heavens and the earth and when they were Created; when the LORD God in a unified voice spoke and made the earth and the heaven. Every single time you see LORD in all capital letters in the Hebrew Bible, it is actually God's name, YHVH, or in Hebrew,

יהוה “*yod heh vav heh.*” I know that I have actually read that in past study and research, but it is amazing to actuate - to stop and process (meditate). God’s proper and revealed name is all over the Hebrew Bible, in fact, over 6700 times in the NIV translation! **God has a Name.**

In the Church, we say *God*, some say *Yahweh*; some might even say *Jehovah*, which is *Yahovah*. Interestingly, others will say *Yehuvah*, the same vowels as *Yeshua*, which is Jesus’ Hebrew name. I have to tell you, in the Jewish faith and Messianic Jewish faith, great honor and respect is given to the Holy Name of the Lord. This is to give careful consideration to the commandment that, “*You shall not take the LORD’s name in vain.*” Rather than risk saying God’s name incorrectly, it is much easier for them to simply just not say the Name. Many of us, if we are being honest, misuse God’s name. Think about it this way: If we merely process our casual usage of the Name of the Lord through the lens of cultural and social appropriateness the detail and demand seems trite and even dogmatic. Yet, if we process through the lens of right and righteous relationship and worship with *Elohim Adonai, the Sovereign Creator of Heaven and Earth*, our justifications and lack of divine awareness is actually embarrassing. If the point is well-taken, we are grateful for the grace given; that there is room for us to grow in our revelation



and understanding of WHO HE IS, and that there is time (if we redeem it) to change from our ways to His.

Consequently, out of this reverence such as this, names such as ADONAI, which is LORD in Hebrew, or HaSHEM, which translates as “the name” are used instead of using God’s name. The four-letter name is also called the tetragrammaton, Greek for “four letter.” One last designation is spelling out His name in the Hebrew letters, “Yod heh vav heh.” **יהוה**

So back to *Elohim* - *Adonai* (Lord God) God’s name!

By the time Moses meets יהוה at the burning bush (study begins at Exodus 3), *Adonai*’s name had long been known among the people. This scene in Exodus 3 was significant in that *Adonai* is re-introducing Himself to them. The people had long forgotten the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; The God of Adam and Eve. In reality, they had become culturalized by Egypt even in their slave status, they were drawn into a culture of pagan gods. ADONAI’s reintroduction in Exodus 3:14 in Hebrew begins with “*eyah asher eyah.*”

Translation: “*I am who I am,*” or “*I will be who I will be...*” אֶהְיֶה  
אֲשֶׁר אֶהְיֶה

To close, let's gather and review what we have introduced. God's proper and revealed name is derived from the Hebrew verb, "hayah," spelled in Hebrew, *Heh yod heh*, הִיָּה. In the Hebrew Qal verb stem (please hear this) the translation is, "*to be, to become, to happen, to occur.*" [14] In short, Adonai's name translates to, "*I am, I will be, I have been.*"

Do you hear the mighty wind? - do you see the big picture?  
*Adonai was, He is, He will be. He is always.*

Isaiah 44:6.

"This is what the LORD says— Israel's King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: ADONAI EL SHADDAI. I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God."

Revelation 22:13

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, [or Hebrew the aleph and the tav], the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End."

*God was, is, and will be.* First and last. Aleph, Tav ת א. Alpha, Omega Α Ω. Eternal. Take a moment and marinate and breathe that. *God was, is, and will be.* No start. No end.

God does all the DOING in the Bible.

God does all the ACTING In my life.

God's name is not stagnant, or an object it is alive.

“*Yod heh vav heh*,” יהוה is a Covenant God, and His name indicates that He is active, a Promise Keeper, the one who Is and DOES.

When we pursue and proclaim His Name over our lives it is an indication that *Adonai* has been given “personhood, character, a reputation, and authority in and over us.” [18] *Adonai*’s dynamic name spoken over us and His presence ever with us indicates, that we are an active part of great the story of the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. It is the story of God’s unrelenting presence to redeem and restore His Creation (you and I).”[19] As I said earlier, we’ve barely scratched the surface of this Divine Name, but as we Pray the Name of the LORD over you and your life today, think of who He Is and who you can become in Him.

...Lets Pray

### **Resource and Reference:**

[1] Gary D. Pratico, and Miles V. Van Pelt. Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Grammar. Zondervan, 2007, pg, 23.

- [2] C. Westermann, Genesis 1-1 (1984), 144-45; G. Wenham, Genesis 1-15 (1987), 27-28; and V. P. Hamilton, The Book of Genesis, Chapters 1-17 (1990), 132-34.
- [3] Bill T. Arnold, Genesis. Asbury Theological Seminary, Cambridge University Press, pg. 44.
- [4] Hannah Genesis Commentary, Dr John D Hannah pp 13-14.
- [5] Ibid, pg 14.
- [6] “The Amazing Name El: Meaning.” Abarim Publications, Abarim publications, 27 June 2024, [www.abarim-publications.com/](http://www.abarim-publications.com/).
- [7] Pratico, and Van Pelt, pg 23.
- [8] Abarim Publications, [abarim-publications.com](http://abarim-publications.com).
- [9] Life Application Study Bible: NIV. Commentary on Genesis 33:20. Zondervan ; Tyndale House Publishers, Inc, 2021.
- [10] “Messianic Jewish Translations.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 23 May 2024, [www.wikipedia.org/](http://www.wikipedia.org/).
- [11] Tree of Life Bible Society, [tlvbiblesociety.org/](http://tlvbiblesociety.org/). Accessed 10 Aug. 2024.
- [12] “Messianic Jewish Translations.” Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation, 23 May 2024, [www.wikipedia.org/](http://www.wikipedia.org/).
- [13] Abarim Publications, [abarim-publications.com](http://abarim-publications.com).
- [14] Pratico, and Van Pelt, pg 450.
- [15] Ibid.
- [16] “Testament: The Story of Moses.” Netflix, 2024.

[17] Pratico, and Van Pelt, pg 273.

[18] Pratico, and Van Pelt, pg 274,

[19] Pratico, and Van Pelt, pg 275.

[20] Practico, and Van Pelt, pg 286.

## **5.11.25 / 5.4.25**

### **Elohim: In Pursuit of His Word - His Will - His Ways**

### **Week Two / Three: Pursuing His Word as Our Divine Inspiration and as Spiritual Authority**

#### **Pursue His Word as Supreme Authority**

The concept of the eternality and authority of God's Word is foundational to Christian belief and practice - it is the foundation from which we build our faith. THE WORD proclaims itself, and concludes for us the Scriptures as the inspired Word of God, and they hold ultimate authority over all aspects of the Christian's faith and moral ideology. This authority originates with its "originator" *YHWH Eloheinu Borah* - יהוה אלוהינו בורא . This means faith in the *Lord God our Creator*, and the belief that the Word

of *Elohim Adonai* is divinely inspired, infallible, and inerrant in its original manuscripts and the author's intent.

*Authoritative words are words that impose will or obligations on the lives of their readers and hearers. To say that the Bible is authoritative is to say that it governs all areas of human life.*<sup>1</sup>

God is by nature the supreme authority in the universe, governing the lives of all His creatures. When He speaks, creatures must obey or bear the consequences of disobedience. The Bible is *Dabar Elohim Adonai* (דְּבַר אֱלֹהִים), and therefore human beings must strive to obey all of His divine principles, godly characteristics, and those revealed details and understandings of Him in all areas of our lives. In 1646, the *Westminster Confession of Faith* instructed:

*"Through saving faith, a Christian believes to be true whatever is revealed in the Word, for the authority of God Himself speaking therein; and acting differently upon that which every particular passage thereof contains; yielding obedience to the commands, trembling at the threatenings, and embracing the promises of God for this life, and the life which is to come."*<sup>2</sup>

This is not to say that the content of Scripture (the Word of the Lord) is comparable to human standards of what is right and wrong, true and false - remember, there is none like the Lord. That is to say, it is not the human

---

<sup>1</sup> The Bible's Authority; Lexham Survey of Systematic Theology

<sup>2</sup> The Westminster Confession of Faith: American Revision (WCF) 14.2

interpretation of Scripture, but **rather, Scripture itself is the very standard, the ultimate criterion of what is true - just - right - righteous.** Important to know that you and I should not restrict or deconstruct the authority of Scripture to pair with what the world describes or interprets as marginal, moral, good, evil, right, wrong, considerable, or negligible. Especially in the hallowed space created by the Lord God Almighty for expressing faith or offering worship, this space is sacred to *Elohim Adonai*. The supreme authority that presides over Christian living is always and forever the Word of the Lord God, not the word of men. Please consider this takeaway.

"Scripture should both govern and give hope to the Christian way of life; knowing in the eyes of God the Word, that all of life is important in the sense that we are to do everything in life to the glory of *Dabar Elohim Adonai - Elohim Yawveh*."

Scripture is the supreme guide as to how we ought to glorify God in all of life. So, however difficult it may be in a social environment, the Christian must be courageously bold to firmly obey the Word, not only in church, but in the workspace, in intellectual circles, in scientific theories, philosophical ideologies, law and judgement, political alignment, celebration of the fine arts, embracing of culture, commitment to civil service, consideration for business and commerce, and certainly our consumption of entertainment and pleasure.

Believers such as you and I, must, of course, respect the fact that Scripture focuses on redemption and sanctification rather than on the broader strokes of general culture. But rather that redemption itself is universal and is open to all who believe *Dabar Adon Yeshua* (אֲדוֹן יֵשׁוּעַ), and yet at the same time a "*narrow road, and few there be that find it*". The redemption of *Adon Yeshua* is the removal of the fall's curse from all creation and the reconciliation of all things to God. The Bible's inclusiveness and the authority of the Word extend over all areas of human life.<sup>3</sup> This Word we cannot get away from - but, then again, why would we want to?

Romans 8:18-25

*For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.*

---

<sup>3</sup> John Frame, "The Bible's Authority," in *Lexham Survey of Theology*, ed; Mark Ward (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2018).



## Pursue His Word as Divine Inspiration

The authority of Scripture is rooted in its divine inspiration. The Apostle Paul writes...

2 Timothy 3:16-17

*"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for instruction, for conviction, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work."*

That extraordinary or supernatural divine influence imparted or "downloaded" (as we like to say) to those who wrote the Holy Scriptures is our indicator that *Dabar Elohim* - Word of God, is writing that God has proclaimed as infallible. *"All scripture is given to men by inspiration of God"*.

In this context, inspiration is a divine action that creates an identity between a human word and a divine word. This passage from Paul to Timothy gives foundation to the belief that the Scriptures are not merely human words but are **breathed out by God Himself**, giving them authoritative standards and a platform for teaching and guiding believers.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> Sidney Greidanus, *The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text: Interpreting and Preaching Biblical Literature* (Grand Rapids, MI; Cambridge, U.K.: Eerdmans Publishing Co. 1988 (pgs 104-105)

The main reason for a theological interpretation as integral to the overall biblical interpretation is to affirm the Bible's claims to be God's Word. If, as Paul claims, "*all scripture is inspired by God*", then divine inspiration ought to be taken into account and careful consideration given when interpreting the Scriptures. This cannot be righteously done when discounting and deconstructing the authors of the Scriptures for their humanity, but rather by seeing *Dabar Elohim Adonai* as the divine author working in and through these human authors. The mystery of divine inspiration is that the Bible is 100% divine while it is 100% human—a mystery which should never be interpreted into various forms of *dualism* which split the Bible into divine elements and human elements, divine factors and human factors, or divine aspects and human aspects.

Hermeneutically, the mystery of divine inspiration means that interpreters of the Bible acknowledge that God speaks His Word through the writings of human authors and redactors. The mystery of the divine inspiration of the Scripture, understood in holistic interpretation, which probes beyond historical reconstruction, language variations, and the verbal meanings for the original and intended message of God.

### **Pursue His Word as Infallible and Inerrant**

The infallibility and inerrancy of the Bible should be understood as an assurance and strength, and as key components to its divine authority and order for living. In fact, it must be seen as the quintessential moral and spiritual compass for our lives - both here and beyond. **Infallibility** means that the Scriptures are incapable of leading believers astray in matters of

faith and practice. **Inerrancy** asserts that the Bible, in its original manuscripts, is free from error in all that it affirms and confirms. Jesus, the living and eternal Word, affirms the reliability and trustworthiness of Scripture for us. He prayed to the Father,

John 17:17

*"Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth."*

He then goes on to confirm this for us when He proclaimed the Word as eternally infallible.

Luke 21:33

*"Heaven and earth will pass away but my Words will not pass away."*

Affirmations and confirmations such as these emphasize the trustworthiness and eternality of God's Word as the ultimate standard of objective truth, and as a final rule of authority for guiding and regulating our lives.

Scripture is divinely inspired by God. This is true of all the "sacred writings," not simply in the sense of being the works of profound wisdom, intellectual genius, or supernatural insight. These are, of course, all true of God's Word. However, these glowing virtues are not the central claim of Scripture. The central claim of the divine Word of God is that *"all Scripture is inspired and breathed into by God"*. *If this claim is true - and it is, then the Word of God is indeed infallible and inerrant.* Infallible and inerrant in such a way that the writers were supernaturally guided to express exactly

what God intended them to express as a revelation of both His mind and will. Can this still be true of men? Can we still be inspired and breathed into by God? The answer is YES! Yes, yes. This is true most practically and consistently in our right and righteous daily interpretation of Scripture using the premise that THE WORD is Infallible and Inerrant in our lives. The testimony of the sacred writers themselves abundantly demonstrates this truth, and if they are infallible as teachers of doctrine, then the doctrine of unlimited inspiration must be accepted. The Scripture continues to inspire men and women today, as the Spirit breathes the breath of His eternal Word into us.

There are no errors in the Bible as it came from God, none have been proved to exist - claims are not the same as evidence. Difficulties and phenomena that we cannot explain are not errors, they are simply unexplainable. All these books of the Old and New Testaments are inspired. So we do not say that the Bible contains the Word of God - we say, The Bible IS the Word of God. The gift of inspiration rendered the writers as ones chosen to speak in the voice of God; to speak the infallible mind and will of Elohim, in the very manner and words in which it was originally given.<sup>5</sup>

Divine truthfulness is the rock beneath a defense of Scripture as the authoritative and entirely trustworthy Word of God. In other words, the Bible as a historical document gives us reliable knowledge of an infallible Christ. Christ the Word (John 1:1-18) gives the highest regard to the

---

<sup>5</sup> M. G. Easton, Illustrated Bible Dictionary and Treasury of Biblical History, Biography, Geography, Doctrine, and Literature (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1893), 345.

inspiration and authority of Scripture. Consequently, the doctrines of Christ the Word should and must be our doctrines as His followers.<sup>6</sup>

### **Pursue Jesus, the Word, as Our Authority**

Jesus Christ Himself recognized and upheld the authority of Scripture. In Matthew 5:18, He states, "*Truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not a single jot, not a stroke of a pen, will disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.*" The use of Scripture by Jesus, in His teachings and in His (real-time) fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies, further affirms the authority of Yeshua, Christ the Word. Jesus often quoted Scripture to counter temptation:

Matthew 4:4

"It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

*Yeshua* also quoted Scripture to clarify God's will:

Matthew 19:4-6

"Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

---

<sup>6</sup> James Montgomery Boice, *Foundations of the Christian Faith: A Comprehensive & Readable Theology* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986), 73.

The Synoptics (Matthew, Mark, Luke) and John, each in their own way, describe Jesus' life and work as the fulfillment of Scripture, thereby establishing His authority as the Living Word. So, the absolute authority claimed by Jesus is made relative by its close relation to Scriptural authority.<sup>7</sup> In addition, the authority of the Resurrection witnesses should also require the accompanying authority of Scripture, and that is not a problem. Behind this tension in authority stands the problem of the relationship between the oral Word and the written Word. Specifically, before the Resurrection, the preaching of Jesus and Scripture was authoritative; after the Resurrection, it would then be known as the preaching of the Gospel, and eventually the written Word - New Testament Scripture.

Matthew 28:18

“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The statement, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me," is, of course, Jesus speaking to His disciples after His resurrection as

---

<sup>7</sup> Horst Robert Balz and Gerhard Schneider, *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1990–), 262.

He gives a final in-person commission. This declaration establishes the divine authority and sovereignty of Christ the Word over all creation.

Clearly, the implication is that Jesus has been given complete and ultimate authority over both the physical and spiritual realms. However, this does not mean that His sovereign authority, divine nature, and His role as the Son of God were a recent acquisition. It is recognition of what has always been true since the beginning of all things. Jesus uses His authority to commission His followers to go into all the world and make disciples. This is a direct fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies like Daniel.

Daniel 7:13-14

"I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed."

The understanding and revelation of authority of Jesus' authority is central to Christian belief and faith, with implications for how Christians understand their own lives and ministry.

**Pursue the Role of the Holy Spirit as Revealer and Presence of The Word**

The Holy Spirit plays a crucial role in affirming the authority of God's Word. The Spirit inspired the human authors of Scripture.

## 2 Peter 1:16-21

“For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

The Holy Spirit now continues this ministry in our present day to illuminate and reveal to the hearts and minds of believers, enabling them to understand and apply the truths of the Bible. The Spirit's work ensures that the authority of Scripture is not merely a historical or intellectual concept but a living reality in the life of the Church and its community. Create space in your heart and mind that is reserved solely and intently for the habitation of the Holy Spirit. From that proximity of habitation and presence, the Holy Spirit reveals the eternal Word to us as we seek the



Word, Will, and Ways of Elohim Adonai! The Spirit reveals all truth - the Spirit gives life to His Word in us.

### **Pursue Scripture as the "Last Word" Authority**

The authority of God's Word means that Scripture is the final arbiter or judge in all matters of biblical doctrine and Christian living. The ancient Bereans exemplified this principle.

Acts 17:11-12

“The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so. Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men.”

This sound and tested practice highlights the importance of considering and measuring all teachings and traditions against the standard of the authoritative Scripture of God's Word.

### **Final Implications for Believers**

For believers, the authority of God's Word demands a response of obedience and submission. James 1:22 exhorts, "*Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*" The authority of Scripture calls

Christians to align their lives with its teachings, trusting in its guidance and promises.

**In conclusion**, the authority of God's Word is a central tenet of the Christian faith, affirming that the Bible is the ultimate guide for belief and behavior. We tightly tether our thoughts, words, and deeds - how we live and move in the Word. It is the air we breathe to sustain new life and the transforming of our faith - the *Dabar Elohim Yawveh*. The divine inspiration, infallibility, and inerrancy of the Word of the Lord God establish for us clear standards for both temporal and eternal living:

- 1) THE Definitive Source of Truth and Meaning**
- 2) Trusted Instruction for Transformation, Wisdom and Understanding**
- 3) Strategic Commandments for Mission, Message and Purpose**
- 4) Necessary Warnings for Setting Priorities, Order, and Expectations**
- 5) Practical Guidance for Clear Direction and Life Decisions**
- 6) Essential Principles and Precepts for Living a Life of Surrender, Submission, and Service**

This then is the ethos or centrality of **Elohim - In pursuit of His Word as Supreme Authority.**