

## HE WHO MADE US IS HE WHO SAVED US

### I. Psalm 146:1-10

A. Let me begin by reading Psalm 146, all ten verses, and then I'll drop back with a specific focus on Verse 6. As I read this Psalm, the spotlight is on The LORD-translated as *Yahweh*. Out of pure reverence, the Hebrew letters YHWH were not uttered. Translated LORD i.e. *Yahweh*, refers to God's covenant faithfulness. *Adonai*, translated, *Lord*, refers to God's sovereignty. LORD, *Yahweh* is our word for God today.

B. Psalm 146:1-10 (ESV) is all about *Who* Yahweh is...

1) **V1-3:** *1 Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! (He's speaking to his own soul.) 2 I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. 3 Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. (Place your faith in poobahs and politicians and you'll be sorely disappointed.)*

2) **V4:** *4 When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. (God gives some leaders to bless and others to render judgment. Sometimes a leader renders both. The Bible is replete with examples...)*

3) **V5a:** *5a Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob. (A schemer, scammer, conniver. Jacob wrestled with an angel and his name was changed to *Israel*: "He who strives with God.")*

4) **5b-6:** *5b whose hope is in the LORD his God, 6 who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; (We will reprise V6 over and over today. What follows are attributes and character qualities of Yahweh our God...)*

5) **V7-9:** *7 who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; 8 the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. 9 The LORD watches over the sojourners; He upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin. (Know anyone getting away with bad stuff? Re-read V4 & V9c and wait patiently.)*

6) **V10:** *10 The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD! (The more we know our God the more natural comes our worship!)*

C. Growing up, my Dad determined most of what we'd watch on TV. Watching in color didn't happen as we only had back & white TVs until after I graduated. The TV Guide was memorized. Red Skelton, Hee Haw, Dean Martin, Gunsmoke, and the CBS News with Walter Cronkite were all *must-see-TV* in our house.

D. But we also watched *The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau*. Those National Geographic specials were extraordinary! As a scientist, inventor, and explorer, Jacques Cousteau brought vivid undersea pictures of God's creatures right into our living room. We all got to see God's underwater workmanship, not unlike what we see with pictures taken via the Hubble telescope. And Who are we talking about? *Yahweh*: "He who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them!"

E. Sitting on the beach like we did this past week, we only got to see tiny glimpses. But some glimpses loom large. Seagulls, sanderlings, pelicans flying in formation, never cease to amaze. A single drop of ocean water teems with more life than in all our solar system! That makes me feel small but makes me see how great is our God! *Who is He that He is mindful of us?! And yet He is!*

F. In giving the 10 Commandments, Moses says of the Sabbath in Exodus 20:11 (ESV): *11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. (Sound familiar?) Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. (Genesis 1 & 2 tell the full story.)*

G. Acts 3 & 4 tell of Peter & John healing a crippled beggar. Peter then preached and the priests had them arrested and jailed. Then they interrogated them but Peter confronted them right back with the truth of the Gospel. Perplexed, the Jewish leaders released them. Peter & John then summoned the church to pray. In Acts 4:24-31 (ESV) Luke records that prayer: *24 And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, (Sound familiar?) 25 who through the mouth of our father David, Your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, 'Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? 26 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the LORD and against His Anointed'"—(He quotes Psalm 2:1-2) 27 for truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, 28 to do whatever Your hand and*

Your plan had predestined to take place. **29** And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to Your servants to continue to speak Your word with all boldness, **30** while You stretch out Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy Servant Jesus.”

**H. In Lystra, Paul & Barnabas healed a man also crippled from birth. The stunned pagans thought they were Zeus & Hermes and brought oxen to sacrifice to them. But Paul & Barnabas stopped them. Luke records in Acts 14:15-18 (ESV): 15 "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. (Sound familiar?) 16 In past generations He allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. 17 Yet He did not leave Himself without witness, for He did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness." (a.k.a. Common Grace.) 18 Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them. (This is who you get to call on when: mistreated, troubled, or facing trials; when battling a life-threatening illness; when pained with grief; when anxious or afraid; when you're lost or confused; when you're seeking guidance & direction; when you've been betrayed, thrown under the bus, or turned out to pasture. This is the God we get to live for and tell others about--The God we get to call, *Father!*)**

**I. God has revealed Himself in all that He has made--heaven, earth, the sea and everything in them. Coined general revelation, He's left man without excuse in terms of acknowledging & pursuing Him. Special revelation means He's revealed Himself in His Word, all 66 books of the Bible. And He's most profoundly revealed Himself--His love and holy severity--through His Son, Jesus Christ. He showed His love by sending His Son. He revealed His holy severity by laying our sin upon His Son and unleashing His wrath upon Him on the cross. He further demonstrated His love to us by imputing to us His Son's sinless record of righteousness. And through faith, gifted by Him, we confess our sin, turn from it in repentance, and walk in joyful obedience. There's nothing more astounding, stunning, remarkable, or beautiful than this! He who made heaven, earth, the sea and all within them, also gave us His Son! He who made us is He who saved us! Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD O my soul!**

\* Close with Prayer...

## **Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff**

### **Psalm 146:1-10 (ESV)**

**1** Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! **2** I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being. **3** Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. **4** When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. **5** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God, **6** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever; **7** who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; **8** the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. **9** The LORD watches over the sojourners; He upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin. **10** The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

### **Exodus 20:8-11 (ESV)**

**8** Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. **9** Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, **10** but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. **11** For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

### **Acts 4:24-30 (ESV)**

**24** And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, "Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, **25** who through the mouth of our father David, Your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, 'Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? **26** The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the LORD and against His Anointed'—**27** for truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, **28** to do whatever Your hand and Your plan had predestined to take place. **29** And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to Your servants to continue to speak Your word with all boldness, **30** while You stretch out Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy Servant Jesus.”

### **Acts 14:15-18 (ESV)**

**15** "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is

in them. **16** In past generations He allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. **17** Yet He did not leave Himself without witness, for He did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.” **18** Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

### Film Clips & Other Links

Word Study: YWWH - "LORD" - The Bible Project (Yahweh and Adonai Explained)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLrGM26pmM0>

"The Boring Preacher in Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" Article by Joshua Rogers

<https://joshuarogers.com/2018/04/04/the-boring-preacher-in-mr-rogers-neighborhood/>

R.C. Sproul and Alice Cooper - Golfing Buddies :-)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4zco4cuMM>

The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHaGWSSrxJY>

### Bonus Stuff

#### Psalm 89:11 (ESV)

**11** The heavens are Yours; the earth also is Yours; the world and all that is in it, You have founded them.

#### Psalm 102:25-28 (ESV)

**25** Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. **26** They will perish, but You will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, **27** but You are the same, and Your years have no end. **28** The children of Your servants shall dwell secure; their offspring shall be established before You.

#### Psalm 124:6-8 (ESV)

**6** Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth! **7** We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped! **8** Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

#### Psalm 134:1-3 (ESV)

**1** Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the LORD, who stand by night in the house of the LORD! **2** Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the LORD! **3** May the LORD bless you from Zion, He who made heaven and earth!

#### Acts 17:22-31 (NKJV)

**22** Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; **23** for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: *TO THE UNKNOWN GOD*. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: **24** God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. **25** Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. **26** And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, **27** so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; **28** for in Him we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’ **29** Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s devising. **30** Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, **31** because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

#### Quote by R.C. Sproul

"The very word authority has within it the word author. An author is someone who creates and possesses a particular work. Insofar as God is the foundation of all authority, He exercises that foundation because He is the author and the owner of His creation. He is the foundation upon which all other authority stands or falls."

### **Quote by Daniel Fuller**

"Just because creation gives God great delight, we cannot say that He is worshipping it; rather, He is worshipping Himself as He sees His goodness bringing such blessing to people that they give their heartfelt thanks and praise to Him for the benefits He imparts."

### **Quote by A.B. Simpson**

"There are enough evidences of supreme skill in the structure of the human hand alone to prove the existence, intelligence and benevolence of God in the face of all the sophistry of infidelity."

### **Quote by Jeremy Taylor**

"What can be more foolish than to think that all this rare fabric of heaven and earth could come by chance, when all the skill of art is not able to make an oyster!"

### **Quote by John Piper**

"If created things are seen and handled as gifts of God and as mirrors of His glory, they need not be occasions of idolatry – if our delight in them is always also a delight in their Maker."

### **Quote by John MacArthur**

"God made all of His creation to give. He made the sun, the moon, the stars, the clouds, the earth, the plants to give. He also designed His supreme creation, man, to give. But fallen man is the most reluctant giver in all of God's creation."

### **Yahweh**

R.C. Sproul - Ligonier Ministries

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/yahweh/>

*"This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations"* ([Ex. 3:15](#)).

We begin our in-depth study of the names of God today with perhaps the most famous name for Him in the Old Testament: Yahweh. This is the name revealed to Moses in today's passage when the Lord appears in the burning bush to call him to lead the Israelites out of their Egyptian slavery.

Ancient Hebrew does not have written vowels, even though the ancient words were pronounced with them whenever the text was read aloud. Vowels were not reflected in the texts themselves until the medieval period. In Hebrew, Yahweh appears as four letters (YHWH), also known as the tetragrammaton. The English word Jehovah derives from a German transliteration that traces back to the 1500s ad. It is a combination of YHWH and the vowels from Adonai, the word for "Lord." Linguists today universally agree that the divine name was never intended to be pronounced "Jehovah," as "Yahweh" best reflects the Hebrew consonants and vowels given to Moses. Yahweh is related to the verbal root "to be," as seen in the phrase "I Am Who I Am" ([Ex. 3:14](#)). Yahweh thus means "I Am."

Though it may not be apparent at first, the name Yahweh tells us many important things about God's identity. In the first place, it indicates that the Lord's character does not change. We can say of ourselves, "I was x yesterday, but today I am y, and maybe tomorrow I will be z," but our Creator cannot do the same. Yesterday He says, "I Am," today He says, "I Am," and tomorrow He says, "I Am." He does not grow in knowledge or holiness. God cannot gain or lose any perfections. His very character is unalterable. He is the one for whom there is no shadow of change ([James 1:17](#)). Importantly, Jesus takes this same name for Himself ([John 8:58](#)), thereby showing His claim to be one with the Father and therefore worthy of our worship.

Yahweh also points out a vital distinction between our essence and God's essence. Both humans and the Almighty possess the attribute of "beingness," that is, we both exist. However, our being is derivative, for there was a time when we did not exist. But God is self-existent: He has always been and can never cease to be ([Ps. 90:2](#)).

### **Coram Deo**

Take a moment to think about how you have changed over the years. Perhaps you are stronger or weaker today than you were ten years ago. Maybe you have progressed in your sanctification so that you repent quickly and love readily. Can it be that you have abandoned the lustful passions that characterized your pre-Christian life? Though we change in our abilities and characters, our Father does not. He alone provides a secure foundation for all of life.

Passages for Further Study

[Ps. 102:25–28](#)

[Mal. 3:6](#)

[Matt. 28:18–20](#)

[Heb. 13:8](#)

### **Adonai**

R.C. Sproul - Ligonier Ministries

<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/adonai-1720/>

*“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”* (v. 9). - Psalm 8

Even today, Jews who desire not to misuse the Lord’s covenant name Yahweh say “Adonai” when they see the four letters of His name (YHWH) in the Hebrew Bible — the Old Testament. *Adonai* is used this way since it is actually another name for God in Scripture. In fact, taking into account its translation in the Greek New Testament as kurios, Adonai is the most common name for our Creator in the Bible.

The English title *lord* typically translates the Hebrew word *Adonai*. In today’s passage, the English title is repeated twice, though it is not a translation of the actual Hebrew term *adonai* in both cases. As is customary in most English versions, YHWH is translated as “LORD” (note the small capital letters) here and Adonai is translated “Lord” (no small capitals) . The passage really reads, “O Yahweh, our Adonai ... .”

*Yahweh* as God’s name primarily reflects His covenant faithfulness, and *Adonai* speaks mainly of His sovereignty. In Scripture, the concepts of authority and omnipotence are inherent to the idea of divine sovereignty. The Lord’s omnipotence, we have seen, simply means that He is able to do whatever He has purposed. For example, God permits His enemies to rebel, but ultimately His will is unstoppable. His might guarantees His sovereignty, for He can do whatever He pleases. Nothing can thwart Him.

Living under various forms of monarchical rule, the biblical authors understood authority well. The king was absolute over most of the societies where the prophets and apostles lived and work. His rule was law, and disobedience meant imprisonment or worse. These ancient kings usually exercised their authority through their royal decrees and proclamations (2 Chron. 30; Est. 8; [Dan. 3:29](#)). All of these concepts are an inherent part of our Creator’s sovereign rule as well.

In our lawless age, we must never forget our Father’s sovereign authority. His decree (as found in Scripture) is supreme, and only He has the absolute right to define good and evil. This point is non-negotiable, and consistently maintaining it sets us apart from our culture that wants to define for itself what is right and wrong.

Finally, the title *lord* when used in reference to Jesus comes from the Greek word *kurios*, a translation of *Adonai*. Its frequent usage in the New Testament ([Acts 7:59](#); [Rom. 5:1](#); [Heb. 13:20](#)) is one of many indications of Jesus’ power, authority, and deity.

### *Coram Deo*

Humanity’s most basic sin is the desire to throw off the Lord’s external authority and become a law unto ourselves. Even we who have been transformed by His grace must likewise war against this desire, which often manifests itself in an attempt to get around His commandments or excuse behaviors and attitudes that are inexcusable. Let us endeavor daily, with the Spirit’s help, to mortify the lawlessness that is trying to overtake us.

Passages for Further Study

[Daniel 7:13–14](#)

[Habakkuk 3:19](#)

[Matthew 7:28–29](#)

[Ephesians 1:15–23](#)