



# *Lomax Online Bulletin*

April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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## Announcements:

We are continuing to meet together online during this challenging time. We will continue to stream on YouTube and Facebook on Sundays at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Primetimers will have class on Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Contributions can be mailed to Lomax Church of Christ, PO Box 33 or made online ([Lomaxchurch.com/give](http://Lomaxchurch.com/give)).

Congrats to the Henderson family as Crews & Summer were married April 20th.

Wonderful news! Cole Farr was baptized Tuesday.

## Meditations from Malcolm:

*I know you like me are hoping and praying that the coronavirus will soon be a thing of the past. Remember Jesus said, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me for I am meek and lowly in heart and you shall find rest unto your soul for my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

*Matthew 11:28-30*

*"We count everyone, because everyone counts." "The son does always shine at Lomax shine at Lomax."*

## Prayer Requests:

**Spencer Clark**, son of Adam & Maranda Clark, is Lewis County sixth grader who has bone cancer and will have thirty weeks of chemo treatments and two surgeries.

**Jodi Bunch** is undergoing chemo treatments and is in a lot of pain. She is under hospice care.

**Debbie Bunch** had skin cancer surgery Friday.

**Sarah Rogers** had a 2nd surgery for her back on April 10 due to an infection. She is home and doing well now.

**Page Roberson** had ACL reconstruction knee surgery Monday, April 20.

**Janice Johnston** is sick at home with bronchitis.

**Carole Hankins** has cancer. She has had surgery and is now undergoing treatment.

## The Names of God: God

by Donnie Debord

The first line of Scripture says, “In the beginning God” (Gen. 1:1). We are all expected to know who God is. But who is God? Have we spent enough time thinking about what it means for us to call this transcended person God? Probably not. We typically move on to the record of creation, but we miss treasures when we run on to the world and forget to stay with God. Perhaps, we should stop and meditate on God who was before the beginning and made everything we see before we move on to see what God did.

We make this same mistake in so many other areas. We wake up in the morning and enjoy the beauty of the sunrise, but it often takes a while for us to remember the Son has risen. We can work so hard to cultivate a beautiful garden, but we forget that God who “so clothes the flowers of the field” clothes us with more beauty. Even when we begin to think biblically, our main questions are often “what must I do?” and “what will I get?” instead marveling at Jesus. Our lives are poorer because we focus on the creation rather than the Creator. Our theology suffers when it becomes man centered (what must I do? What can I get?) rather than God centered (who is God? How great is our God!).

### The “God”

The word translated God is Elohim (אֱלֹהִים). Obviously, the first time this word used in the Scriptures it refers to God as the Creator who stands outside of his creation but exercises his control over the created order.

This Hebrew word was often used in instances where God was pictured as the ruler and judge. The slave who wanted to stay in his master’s home as a slave was brought before God

before his ear was marked as that master’s slave (Exodus 21:6). Questions about ownership were dealt with by coming “near to God” (Ex. 22:8).

Pagan deities were also described with the word “Elohim (אֱלֹהִים).” Still, the God of the Bible was shown to be the true God against their claims. In both the creation narrative and the ten plagues wrought on Egypt, God demonstrated that he was superior to the pagan deities which the peoples looked to for help and worship.

In Psalm 8:5, the Hebrew word Elohim (אֱלֹהִים) is typically translated as “the angels” or “the heavenly beings” (ESV). Here, it seems that the word is used to describe those “heavenly beings” as Elohim (אֱלֹהִים) because they are so closely associated with God.

So, when we call on God as “God,” we are denoting who he is in relation to us. He is God and we are not. This is one of the most important lessons we can learn. The distinction between the Creator and the creature is huge and we need to be aware that we are not in the same class as God. Though there are ways in which we are similar to God because we have been made in his image, the depths of differences are unfathomable.

As we look back on the way the word Elohim (אֱלֹהִים) is used, we see that God is the most excellent Creator, supreme Judge, the true Deity, and the One who stands above even the heavenly host. This important lesson was made clear in Ezekiel 28:2-7 where God said, “Son of man, say to the prince of Tyre, Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘Because your heart is proud, and you

have said, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of the gods, in the heart of the seas,' yet you are a man, and no god, though you make your like like the heard of a god....therefore, behold, I will bring foreigners upon you, the most ruthless of the nations...against your beauty of your wisdom and defile your splendor''

One main sin was that the people did not properly relate to God as the one who was infinitely superior to them. If ever there was a sin to describe our age, this was it. We like to pretend we know best, that we can choose our own life, that we can choose to do what we want, and that the world should revolve around us. We put ourselves in the place of God only to find discipline from the truly God who destroys our wisdom and defiles our splendor. Although we know there is a God, we do not honor him as God and neither are we thankful.

When we call God our God:

When we address God as God, we should remember how we relate to him. He is the perfect and infinite source of all power, wisdom, beauty, and goodness. We are finite and depend upon him for everything.

1. Calling on God as God should lead us to be in awe of him. We call this worship. When is the last time you marveled at something in creation? It is easy to do. Nature is amazing. Shouldn't we be in awe of the one who made all those things and sustains them? The heavens do not exist for their own glory. The heavens declare the glory of God.
2. Calling on God as God should lead us to repentance. Like a mischevious child who is suddenly in the presence of his mother, to remember God should remind us of being in the presence of pure holiness and demand our repentance as we mourn for sin.
3. Calling on God as God should lead us to prayer. When we ponder the greatness of our God we should immediately abandon our own strength and wisdom. What a blessing it is to depend entirely upon the One who is able to sustain us.