

PRAYING THROUGH THE NAMES OF GOD

TONY EVANS



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*I would like to dedicate this book to
two very special prayer warriors:
my executive assistant, Sylvia Stewart,
who intercedes on behalf of our local church,
and our receptionist, Nancy Reindle,
who prays in concert with the needs and
requests of our national ministry.*

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INTRODUCTION

Throughout Scripture we find God's people calling on his name. Or more accurately, calling on his *names*. In the Bible, God reveals himself by various names, mostly related to his ability to meet the needs of his people. Thus, the people of God in the Bible were able to call on the name of the Lord for peace, deliverance, productivity, victory, encouragement, safety, protection, provision, power, and myriads of other things. That's true of God's people today too. Whatever our present need, God is the one who can meet that need—and he reveals himself as such by one of his many names.

Praying Through the Names of God is a tool you can use to call on the name of God for a specific need. You can do this in confidence because each of God's names in Scripture reveals an aspect of his nature suited to the need of the moment. To call on God's name in prayer is to appeal to that aspect of his character that relates to our particular need.

The Bible includes more than 85 names of God. Each one gives us a description of who God is and how he relates to his creation. We can see God's relevance to our particular situation by appealing to him based on the revelation of his names.

To help you communicate with God, I have provided a prayer related to each of his names. Prayer is heavenly permission for earthly interference. God longs to be involved with each of us on a personal level. Each of the prayers is based on the acronym ACTS:

- adoration
- confession
- thanksgiving
- supplication

You can repeat these prayers verbatim or use them to jump-start your own prayers. As you begin to pray God's name over your situation, you may find yourself continuing in prayer using your own words.

May God use this book to encourage you and help you communicate with our heavenly Father. I am excited to join you as we pray his names together.

ELOHIM

THE STRONG CREATOR GOD

In the beginning God [Elohim] created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

GENESIS 1:1-2

Adoration

Elohim, you are the strong Creator God. In you I find all of the components of everything you have ever created. Your great imagination gave the elephant its long trunk and the leopard its spots. By your strong arm the ocean depths were first measured and the mountains rose. You chose what color the sky would be and how the earth would feed itself, even bringing life through death as a seed dies before towering into a tree. I praise you for the greatness of your creative prowess and ingenuity. I adore you for the fullness of your power. And I honor you for how you have made all things, even the minutiae, work together to populate your great creation that we call earth.

Confession

Elohim, forgive me when I fail to recognize your creative power. Forgive me for not stopping and being awed by your hand and the masterpiece of your creation. Forgive me for doubting where I should trust you, even when it comes to my own life—my health

and my purpose for living. I have not always seen you in the light of your greatness, and sometimes I make you seem much smaller than you truly are. For that, I am sorry.

Thanksgiving

Elohim, thank you for the security I experience when I recognize you as the great Creator God. No one was there telling you how to make the earth rotate in its orbit so it would continually receive light and heat. And yet you did it perfectly. I thank you that you know all things and don't need me to try to figure out how to solve my issues or make my plans come about. You put the universe together with your words—thank you for knowing how to put my life together as well.

Supplication

Elohim, create great things for me to walk in. Create intersections where you merge my passion, experiences, skills, and interests together so I can fulfill the calling you have for me. Create in my heart a purity that is peaceful and appealing to those around me. Create my destiny, I pray, and then guide me into it for your name's sake and for your pleasure. I trust you to create my life's story and to give me all I need to fully live out the path you have planned for me. Thank you, *Elohim*, for being the strong Creator God.

JEHOVAH

THE RELATIONAL GOD

*This is the account of the heavens and the earth
when they were created, in the day that the LORD
[Jehovah] God made earth and heaven.*

GENESIS 2:4

Adoration

Jehovah, you are worthy of all praise and adoration. You are the God who made the heavens and the earth. You set the stars in their places and hung the moon where it was to remain. You rule over all, and yet you also seek a relationship with your creation. For that and much more, you are worthy of all praise and worship. I lift up your name—*Jehovah*—as I seek your face. And I honor you as you are seated on your throne above all. You are the great and mighty God, who raises up kingdoms and subdues nations at your choosing. In your mercy, you sustain all life and passionately delight in our souls.

Confession

Jehovah, I come before you with a heart of contrition, knowing I often haven't honored you as Lord and master of my life. You wait for me to come talk to you, to wake up and greet you, or to spend my evenings with you, but I have instead wasted time on futile distractions. You are the relational God, who desires to walk with me in the cool of the day, just as you walked with Adam and Eve

in those early days of your creation. Forgive me for often seeking to walk alone and ignoring the blessing and joy of your presence.

Thanksgiving

Jehovah, thank you for desiring to be close to me. Thank you for not only being high and lifted up but also dwelling with the lowly and with those who are not of a high stature. Thank you for the goodness and depth of your heart, which pours out love time and again in my life. Thank you for your grace and patience, which you lovingly manifest even in the face of my many dismissals of you. I often walk in the midst of the beauty of your creation without giving you the praise and credit you deserve. Please accept my heart of gratitude right now for all you have made and for your desire to know me fully and to empower me to know you as well.

Supplication

Jehovah, to know you and to be known by you—to experience the depth of this intimacy is my heart's greatest cry. Give me the capacity to love you deeply and to receive the love you have for me. Where my heart has become hardened or jaded, remind me of the purity of your love and gently massage it open again. Where my mind has become too analytical, give me the gift of wonder at who you are and the works of your hands. Delight my soul with your Word and with the fresh wind of your Holy Spirit. Slow my steps so that abiding with you becomes a way of life. Help me to honor you as King and to advance your kingdom.

ADONAI

MASTER OVER ALL

*O Lord [Adonai] GOD, You have begun to show
Your servant Your greatness and Your strong hand;
for what god is there in heaven or on earth who
can do such works and mighty acts as Yours?*

DEUTERONOMY 3:24

Adoration

O Lord God, my *Adonai*, you are a great and mighty God. You have opened my eyes to see your greatness and your strong hand. What god is there in heaven or on earth who can do the amazing and powerful things you can do? Who can create a mountain? Who can make the deep where the waters rest, far beyond anything we can see? Who can calm a storm with just one word? None other than you, *Adonai*. You are the Master over all. You are the Lord above all. And you are deserving of the highest honor and praise.

Confession

Adonai, I humbly bow and ask for your forgiveness for failing to honor you as I should. I ask you to show me great mercy for the many times I've gone about my day without considering that you are the Lord and Master over all. How dare I fail to acknowledge your hand? How dare I attribute to man what I ought to attribute to you? Forgive me for my shortsightedness and lack of faith.

Thanksgiving

Adonai, thank you for being my Lord and my Master and yet allowing me to know you intimately. Thank you for remembering me constantly and reminding me of your presence. Your love captivates me. Your power mesmerizes me. All I need is your love in my life, and I thank you, *Adonai*, for giving me access to you throughout my day. Any moment I need you, you are there. I love you, *Adonai*, and I thank you for granting me the privilege of loving you and receiving your love.

Supplication

Adonai, help me align my thoughts, actions, heart, decisions, and desires underneath you and your rule so I can fully experience the blessing of your hand in my life and so I can fulfill the destiny you have prepared for me. May I live out all of the days you have ordained for me, and may I discover the calling you have given me. Help me to see where I can share the knowledge of you with others and how I can spread the love you have put in my heart to those who need it the most. May your caring eyes watch over all I do. I ask you to empower me to impact the lives of those around me with your kingdom agenda.

EL BETHEL

THE GOD OF THE HOUSE OF GOD

*He built an altar there, and called the place
El-bethel, because there God had revealed Himself
to him when he fled from his brother.*

GENESIS 35:7

Adoration

El Bethel, I know that you can do all things and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. You have revealed your power and your strength in countless ways. The heavens tell of your glory. The skies display your marvelous craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak, and at night, they make you known. They speak without a word, and their voice is silent in the skies, yet their message goes out to all of us on the earth. For since the creation of the world, your invisible attributes—your eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made. You have revealed yourself to all of us, *El Bethel*, and I give you praise for who you are.

Confession

El Bethel, I confess I don't always see you when you reveal yourself to me. I don't always stand in amazement at the intricacy of your creation. I fail to marvel at the depth of your wisdom. Forgive me for those times when you have revealed yourself to me and yet I chose to view you with earthly eyes rather than with spiritual

discernment. Let my love abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight so that I may be able to discern what is best and may be pure in my recognition of you.

Thanksgiving

El Bethel, thank you for making yourself known to me. Thank you for taking up residence in me through the death, burial, and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, which enabled your Holy Spirit to make my spirit your house. My body is now the temple of the living God. My life is *bethel*, where you dwell, and yet I still strive to make my own decisions in spite of your desires. Thank you for your patience and longsuffering as you dwell in and with me.

Supplication

El Bethel, abide in me. Set up your home in the depths of my soul. Let your words dwell in me that I may know and live by them and for you. Reveal to me the sin I must confess and turn from so that I may be pure and blameless in your sight. Show me how to best honor you through this temple you have set up within me. Guide me in my eating habits, in my entertainment choices, and even in what I wear so that as your house—*bethel*—I may glorify you in all I do. Grant me the discernment to know how to reflect you well.