DAILY DEVOTIONAL

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HENDRICKSON Publishing Group This free e-Chart is taken from the book 100 Names of God Daily Devotional ISBN 9781628622911. What's in a name? In God's case, everything! From Elohim (Mighty Creator) and Jehovah Ezrah (My Helper) to Logos (the Word) and Basileus Basileon (King of kings), this book reflects on the meanings of God's titles to reveal his true character.



"Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen."

1 TIMOTHY 1:17

C an you believe King Louis XIV occupied the French throne for seventy-two years? That's a *longer* reign than all but about ten rulers in world history. Yet it's only a blip in time compared the King who reigns eternally.

Moses had the privilege of reminding the Hebrew people about their God and King, Yahweh. The children of Israel who came under Moses' leadership had painful memories of four hundred years of servitude to a series of Egyptian rulers. Each of those pharaohs held power, but each one was temporary and terminal. Seeing the waves of the Red Sea crash over the Egyptian army, Moses knew that sad chapter of Israel's history was over. Ahead of them was a new life with "the eternal God" (Deuteronomy 33:27) as their King, who would reign over them "for ever and ever" (Exodus 15:18).

Centuries later when the people of Israel balked at God being their King and clamored for an earthly ruler so they could be like all the other nations (see 1 Samuel 8), they began to watch their own kings come and go. They learned—often through pain and heartache—that no earthly ruler can provide longterm security or prosperity.

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Today we live in a world where corrupt leaders are common and even our best leaders are imperfect and short-term. We need to be reminded that God is the King of kings. Because He's good, His reign is too. Because He's wise, He won't make mistakes. Because He's sovereign, we can trust that events are never beyond His control. And because He's *eternal*, we don't have to fear Him handing over power to some other leader who might not be so wise or good.

The eternal King of kings will one day rule in a very public, physical, literal, and universal way. Meanwhile, we can install Yahweh, the eternal God and King, as the permanent spiritual ruler of our lives.

A Christian's true citizenship is in heaven; he or she serves the King whose kingdom never ends.

Is it difficult for you to think of God as an eternal King? Why or why not?



PRAYER

Eternal King, thank You that Your rule over my life and over this world never ends. I praise You that You always rule fairly, truthfully, and lovingly. Amen.

READ MORE: PSALM 29:10; JOHN 18:36



HENDRICKSON Publishing Group Kings, this book reflects on the meanings of God's titles to reveal his true character.

KING OF NATIONS

MELEKH HAGOYIM

"Who should not fear you, King of the nations? This is your due. Among all the wise leaders of the nations and in all their kingdoms, there is no one like you."

JEREMIAH 10:7

Moses witnessed God defeat the enemies of the Hebrew people. He celebrated God, recognizing Him as more than the King of the Hebrews but the King over all. Moses knew that God was the one who appointed and deposed Kings. He supersedes all earthly powers (Deuteronomy 3:21; 7:24).

Many generations later, Jeremiah watched the painful fall of the nation of Israel. And with a heart torn by grief, Jeremiah also recognized God as the *Melekh HaGoyim:* King of nations.

It was probably easy for Moses to herald God as King of the nations. It was surely harder for Jeremiah, who could only stand by helplessly as his people were devastated.

God's kingship over the earth does not depend on news headlines or the pronouncements of so-called experts. Even when things look bleak (our business fails, our families suffer, the country turns away from God, or nations threaten war), God is still on His throne. No matter what, we can put our confidence in Him as King, just as Jeremiah did.

God chose Abraham and promised He would bless the world through his descendants (Genesis 12:3). But this didn't mean God would be King of the Jews—Abraham's descendants—only.

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Since the beginning, He has been reigning and ruling over all individuals, all families, all people groups, and all countries—even those who have tried to close their borders to Him.

Revelation 15:3 offers a final mention of God as the King of the nations. When the storyline of the world draws to a close, evil will have run its course and approached its end. In the final chapter of history, God will be declared the winner, the last one standing, the King of the nations.

No matter where we look—past, present, or future—our God is in charge. He is King of the nations.

What world events seem most overwhelming without the hope of the King of the nations?



PRAYER

God, You reveal Yourself as King of the nations. You rule and You reign. I can be confident in the fact that You have determined the end of history's story. Amen.

READ MORE: JOB 12:10; PSALM 22:28



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THE EVERLASTING GOD, The Eternal God

EL OLAM

"Abraham planted a tamarisk tree in Beersheba, and there he called on the name of the LORD, the Eternal God."

GENESIS 21:33

C ompanies eventually pass from one owner to another. Whether it's a family business passed down from one generation to the next, or a larger corporation snatching up a rival, such transactions typically result in uncertainty. Sometimes in the aftermath of such a transition, a business goes under or becomes unrecognizable. It's a reminder that no business, no matter how solid, is forever. Brands come and go. At some point, even Apple, Amazon, and Google will be no more.

God is the great exception. He is the one CEO, if you will, who reigns forever and ever. His kingdom is the one entity that will never end. This is because he is *El Olam*, which is Hebrew for *eternal*, *everlasting*, or *forever*. God is impervious to time and change. As the everlasting God, He will never cash in His stock options and hand over the reins to someone else.

Among the many great things about a God who is everlasting is that He can make everlasting agreements! He made an unending covenant with Noah that He would never again flood the whole earth (Genesis 9:11). He made an eternal covenant with Abraham that He would be his offspring's God forever (Genesis 17:7). *El Olam* also makes an irrevocable promise to those who put their faith in Jesus Christ: They will have new, true spiritual

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life forever (Hebrews 9:15). Only *El Olam*, the Eternal God, can make audacious promises: "This is what the LORD says—Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God" (Isaiah 44:6).

Because God is eternal, our redemption is secure. Our salvation is guaranteed to last. God does not run a business that He will one day sell to the highest bidder.

Our future is sure and secure because we serve the Eternal God.

In what ways does the eternal nature of God give you confidence?

PRAYER

Thank You, Father, for giving me a tiny inkling of what eternity means. Thank You for being an everlasting God who pledges to save me eternally. Amen.

READ MORE: PSALM 90:1-2; ECCLESIASTES 3:11; ISAIAH 40:28



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