

THE TITLE “SHADDAI”

The first time the Hebrew word שַׁדַּי (Shaddai) occurs in the Bible is in Genesis 17:1 when Yahweh revealed himself to Abraham and said, ‘I AM EL SHADDAI’ meaning I am the strength or power of the mighty ones. These mighty ones are the messengers referred to in the scriptures who fulfil the will of God in things relating to His purpose and intentions. They are referred to in **Deuteronomy 33:2** “The LORD came from Sinai and revealed himself to Israel from Seir. He appeared in splendour from Mount Paran, and came forth with **ten thousand holy ones**. With his right hand he gave a fiery law to them. “ Moses and the Prophets teach one self-existent supreme fountain of Power, Ail, who is Spirit, and self-named I shall be, or Yahweh: that this one Yahweh Spirit Power is “God” in the highest sense, and constitutes the Godhead, or Father in heaven, that he is the springhead of many streams, or rivers of Spirit, which assume organic forms, according to the will of the Yahweh-Spirit Power, and that when formed after the model or pattern presented in His own incorruptible substance, they become Spirit-Elohim, or Sons of God, and are Spirit because born of the Spirit—Emanations of the formative spirit being ἐξ αὐτοῦ out of Him. The Spirit-Elohim was also “God”; nevertheless, they are created. They are formed and made out of and by that which is uncreated. They are Spirit-Forms, the substance of which (Spirit) is eternal; while the forms are from a beginning. Each one is a god in the sense of partaking of THE DIVINE NATURE, and being therefore a Son of God. Yahweh reminds Job of their existence when He asks Job, “Where were you when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?” (Job 38:7 KJV)

Genesis 17:1 And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I *am* the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. (Gen 17:1 KJV)

And this appears still more clearly in Exodus 6:2–3, where the revelation of God as Jehovah to Israel is contrasted with his manifestation of himself to the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as El-Shaddai, and where the deliverance of Israel is distinctly connected with the fact that their God is Yahweh (He who will be). The Divine name is regarded as properly future, and as denoting *becoming* rather than *being*.

The most frequent use of ‘el shaddai’ is in the book of Job where it is translated as ‘the Almighty’ some 31 times.

Please find attached the Analysis of the Hebrew Titles drawn up by Brother Thomas in 1869.

Hebrew Titles of Deity and their Significance	How they appear in the Auth. Version.
<i>El</i> (or Ail) ... Strength or Power. The One Supreme, Omnipotent, Spirit-Power of the Universe, dwelling in unapproachable light.	God.
<i>Eloah</i> ... A Mighty One. Deity is an Eloah, and so are those messengers of His who manifest His power. They are mighty because of the presence of El	God.
<i>Elah</i> ... The Chaldee form of Eloah	God.
<i>Elohim</i> ... Mighty Ones. El manifested in a multitude, each one of which is an Eloah, but combined are the Elohim	God.
<i>Yahweh</i> ... The purpose of Deity memorialised in a Name. It is prophetic of His intention to manifest His nature (2 Pet. 1:3) and glory (Rom. 5:2), in certain ones whom He is taking out from the Gentiles for this purpose (Acts 15:14). The word means "He Who will be."	LORD or Jehovah.
<i>Yah</i> ... An abbreviated form of Yahweh, used in the poems of Israel and incorporated into names of individuals	LORD or Jah.
<i>Adon</i> ... Lord, sovereign, ruler, owner, overseer	Lord.
<i>Adonai</i> ... Plural of Adon	Lord.
<i>Shaddai</i> ... Mighty or Powerful Ones	Almighty.
<i>Tzur</i> ... Rock, a metaphor for strength	Rock, God.
<i>El Shaddai</i> ... The strength of the powerful Ones. El manifested through the "ministers of Deity".	God Almighty.
<i>El</i> ... Elyon Most High El	Most High God.

LORD God.

Yahweh Elohim ...

“He who shall be Mighty Ones.” This title is expressive of Deity’s purpose in “taking out from the Gentiles a people for His Name” (Acts 15:14). These people will be the Elohim of the future Age

LORD God.

Adonai Yahweh ...

Lords of He who Shall be. This title has a similar import to Yahweh Elohim

LORD of hosts.

Yahweh Tz’vaoth ...

The militant title of Deity. He who will be Armies. It signifies the manifestation of Power through divine Armies of the future

LORD God of hosts.

Yahweh Elohim Tz’voath ...

He who will be Mighty Ones (Commanders) of Armies

Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh ...

“I will be who I will be.” This proclamation of Deity at the bush announced His purpose to manifest Himself in flesh (1 Tim. 3:16). This was fulfilled in an individual, the Lord Jesus Christ (John 17:5, 6, 26), and will ultimately be so in a community: the multitudinous Body of Christ. The scope of the Name is revealed in two quotations: Isa. 44:6 and 41:4, “I am the first and I am the last.” In the first reference, “last” is in the singular number, and relates to the Lord Jesus Christ; in the second reference it is in the plural, and is expressive of Christ’s brethren.

“I AM THAT I AM” (Exod. 3:14). This is an incorrect translation. It has been corrected in the margin of the Revised Version.

As we have seen when seeking to understand the meaning of Hebrew words such as EL Shaddai, most Bible translations give ‘Almighty’ as the equivalent in English. There are difficulties in translating however and many times a translator will not translate a Hebrew word literally because it would mean nothing to the Western mind. However the original word is derived from the language of herdsmen and farmers. To such, the word ‘shad’ referred to the teats on the udder of the goat providing nourishment for the kids. Such is the case with Shaddai. The Hebrews recognised that just as the goat provided nourishment to its kids through its milk, so God nourishes his children through his milk and provision for the necessities of life. This is indicated in Exodus 3:8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites. (Exo 3:8 KJV)

However Hebrew words have a positive aspect but also a negative one as well.

There are many examples, where when the children of Israel complied with God's instructions, then, they were indeed nourished and eventually blessed with the Land flowing with Milk and Honey. But it should be noticed, that it was the Shaddai that plunged Sodom and Gomorrah into destruction and desolation. So the word Shaddai is derived from a Hebrew root which according to the 'vowel Points' can either stand for 'nourisher' (from 'shad' = breast or teat) or destroyer (shadad) שָׁדַד]:56 **vb.** deal violently with, despoil, devastate, ruin (NH *id.*, Niph.; cf. also שָׁדַד Ho 10:14; *Pt. act.* שָׁדַד Je 6:26 +, etc.; *pass.* שָׁדוּד Ju 5:27 +, f. שָׁדוּדָה Psalm 137:8;—*violently destroy*, pers., = *slay* Ju 5:27 (*pass.*), Je 5:6 (wolf subj.; | | הָפָה); acc. Philistines 47:4 (| | הַכְרִית), v:4 (subj. 'י); = *devastate*.

An interesting observation

Both Moses and Jesus show, that the Spirit did not mean to be understood that he was Abraham's God at the time of the Angel's interview with Moses at the bush. This is evident in regard to Moses, from the words זְחֵמִי צַבֵּס *zeh-sheme le-olam, this is My name for the Aion*; that is, "When the age exists My relation to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob will be expressed by My name יְהוֹה *Y'ho-ah-ah*, "was"; הוֹ *ho* "is"; and יֵי *ye*, "shall be." It was therefore a prophetic name, which required for its accomplishment the resurrection of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, from the dead. It taught that they were to be raised at the last day—at the Aion, Olam, or Cycle, to which the name belonged. Then, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, would be in the Kingdom of God with all the prophets; and the Spirit, who styled himself AIL-SHADDAI, the strength of the Mighty Ones, 430 years before the exodus of Israel, would manifest himself in ELOHIM, or *Strong Ones*, that is, Gods who should be spirit, because born of the spirit. The "ONE SPIRIT," in *plural manifestation*, being aggregately "the Sons of God" (Rom. 8:19). So that the Elohim or Gods of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in that day will be, "their seed," even Jesus and the saints.

VERSES IN THE KING JAMES VERSION WHERE THE HEBREW WORDS 'SHADDAI' OR 'EL SHADDAI' ARE TRANSLATED "ALMIGHTY".

KJV Genesis 17:1 And when Abram <087> was ninety <08673> <08141> years <08141> old <01121> and nine <08672>, the LORD <03068> appeared <07200> (08735) to Abram <087>, and said <0559> (08799) unto him, I *am* the Almighty <07706> God <0410>; walk <01980> (08690) before me <06440>, and be thou perfect <08549>.

KJV Genesis 28:3 And God <0410> Almighty <07706> bless <01288> (08762) thee, and make thee fruitful <06509> (08686), and multiply <07235> (08686) thee, that you may be a multitude <06951> of people <05971>;

KJV Genesis 35:11 And God <0430> said <0559> (08799) unto him, I *am* God <0410> Almighty <07706>: be fruitful <06509> (08798) and multiply <07235> (08798); a nation <01471> and a company <06951> of nations <01471> shall be of thee, and kings <04428> shall come <03318> (08799) out of thy loins <02504>;

KJV Genesis 43:14 And God <0410> Almighty <07706> give <05414> (08799) you mercy <07356> before <06440> the man <0376>, that he may send away <07971> (08765) your other <0312> brother <0251>, and Benjamin <01144>. If <0834> I be bereaved <07921> (08804) *of my children*, I am bereaved <07921> (08804).

KJV Genesis 48:3 And Jacob <03290> said <0559> (08799) unto Joseph <03130>, God <0410> Almighty <07706> appeared <07200> (08738) unto me at Luz <03870> in the land <0776> of Canaan <03667>, and blessed <01288> (08762) me,

KJV Genesis 49:25 *Even* by the God <0410> of thy father <01>, who shall help <05826> (08799) thee; and by <0854> the Almighty <07706>, who shall bless <01288> (08762) thee with blessings <01293> of heaven <08064> above <05920>, blessings <01293> of the deep <08415> that lieth <07257> (08802) under, blessings <01293> of the breasts <07699>, and of the womb <07356>:

KJV Exodus 6:3 And I appeared <07200> (08735) unto Abraham <085>, unto Isaac <03327>, and unto Jacob <03290>, by *the name of* God <0410> Almighty <07706>, but by my name <08034> JEHOVAH <03068> was I not known <03045> (08738) to them.

KJV Numbers 24:4 He hath said <05002> (08803), which heard <08085> (08802) the words <0561> of God <0410>, which saw <02372> (08799) the vision <04236> of the Almighty <07706>, falling <05307> (08802) *into a trance*, but having his eyes <05869> open <01540> (08803):

KJV Numbers 24:16 He hath said <05002> (08803), which heard <08085> (08802) the words <0561> of God <0410>, and knew <03045> (08802) the knowledge <01847> of the most High <05945>, *which* saw <02372> (08799) the vision <04236> of the Almighty <07706>, falling <05307> (08802) *into a trance*, but having his eyes <05869> open <01540> (08803):

KJV Ruth 1:20 And she said <0559> (08799) unto them, Call <07121> (08799) me not Naomi <05281>, call <07121> (08798) me Mara <04755>: for the Almighty <07706> hath dealt very <03966> bitterly <04843> (08689) with me.

KJV Ruth 1:21 I went out <01980> (08804) full <04392>, and the LORD <03068> hath brought me home again <07725> (08689) empty <07387>: why *then* call <07121> (08799) ye me Naomi <05281>, seeing the LORD <03068> hath

testified <06030> (08804) against me, and the Almighty <07706> hath afflicted <07489> (08689) me?

KJV Job 5:17 Behold, happy <0835> *is* the man <0582> whom God <0433> correcteth <03198> (08686): therefore despise <03988> (08799) not thou the chastening <04148> of the Almighty <07706>:

KJV Job 6:4 For the arrows <02671> of the Almighty <07706> *are* within <05978> me, the poison <02534> whereof drinks up <08354> (08802) my spirit <07307>: the terrors <01161> of God <0433> do set themselves in array <06186> (08799) against me.

KJV Job 6:14 To him that is afflicted <04523> pity <02617> *should be shewed* from his friend <07453>; but he forsakes <05800> (08799) the fear <03374> of the Almighty <07706>.

KJV Job 8:3 Doth God <0410> pervert <05791> (08762) judgment <04941>? or doth the Almighty <07706> pervert <05791> (08762) justice <06664>?

KJV Job 8:5 If thou would seek <07836> <00> unto God <0410> betimes <07836> (08762), and make thy supplication <02603> (08691) to the Almighty <07706>;

KJV Job 11:7 Canst thou by searching <02714> find out <04672> (08799) God <0433>? canst thou find <04672> (08799) out the Almighty <07706> unto perfection <08503>?

KJV Job 13:3 Surely <0199> I would speak <01696> (08762) to the Almighty <07706>, and I desire <02654> (08799) to reason <03198> (08687) with God <0410>.

KJV Job 15:25 For he stretches out <05186> (08804) his hand <03027> against God <0410>, and strengtheneth <01396> (08691) himself against the Almighty <07706>.

KJV Job 21:15 What *is* the Almighty <07706>, that we should serve <05647> (08799) him? and what profit <03276> (08686) should we have, if we pray <06293> (08799) unto him?

KJV Job 21:20 His eyes <05869> shall see <07200> (08799) his destruction <03589>, and he shall drink <08354> (08799) of the wrath <02534> of the Almighty <07706>.

KJV Job 22:3 *Is it* any pleasure <02656> to the Almighty <07706>, that thou art righteous <06663> (08799)? or *is it* gain <01215> *to him*, that thou makest thy ways <01870> perfect <08552> (08686)?

KJV Job 22:17 Which said <0559> (08802) unto God <0410>, Depart <05493> (08798) from us: and what can the Almighty <07706> do <06466> (08799) for them?

KJV Job 22:23 If thou return <07725> (08799) to the Almighty <07706>, thou shalt be built up <01129> (08735), thou shalt put away <07368> <00> iniquity <05766> far <07368> (08686) from thy tabernacles <0168>.

KJV Job 22:25 Yea, the Almighty <07706> shall be thy defence <01220>, and thou shalt have plenty <08443> of silver <03701>.

KJV Job 22:26 For then shalt thou have thy delight <06026> (08691) in the Almighty <07706>, and shalt lift up <05375> (08799) thy face <06440> unto God <0433>.

KJV Job 23:16 For God <0410> makes my heart <03820> soft <07401> (08689), and the Almighty <07706> troubles<0926> (08689) me:

KJV Job 24:1 Why, seeing times <06256> are not hidden <06845> (08738) from the Almighty <07706>, do they that know <03045> (08802) him not see <02372> (08804) his days <03117>?

KJV Job 27:2 As God <0410> lives <02416>, *who* hath taken away <05493> (08689) my judgment <04941>; and the Almighty <07706>, *who* hath vexed <04843> (08689) my soul <05315>;

KJV Job 27:10 Will he delight <06026> (08691) himself in the Almighty <07706>? will he always <06256> call <07121> (08799) upon God <0433>?

KJV Job 27:11 I will teach <03384> (08686) you by the hand <03027> of God <0410>: *that* which *is* with the Almighty <07706> will I not conceal <03582> (08762).

KJV Job 27:13 This *is* the portion <02506> of a wicked <07563> man <0120> with God <0410>, and the heritage <05159> of oppressors <06184>, *which* they shall receive <03947> (08799) of the Almighty <07706>.

KJV Job 29:5 When the Almighty <07706> *was* yet with me, *when* my children <05288> *were* about <05439> me;

KJV Job 31:2 For what portion <02506> of God <0433> *is there* from above <04605>? and *what* inheritance <05159> of the Almighty <07706> from on high <04791>?

KJV Job 31:35 Oh that <05414> (08799) one would hear <08085> (08802) me! behold, my desire <08420> *is, that* the Almighty <07706> would answer <06030> (08799) me, and *that* mine adversary <0376> <07379> had written <03789> (08804) a book <05612>.

KJV Job 32:8 But <0403> *there is* a spirit <07307> in man <0582>: and the inspiration <05397> of the Almighty <07706> giveth them understanding <0995> (08799).

KJV Job 33:4 The Spirit <07307> of God <0410> hath made <06213> (08804) me, and the breath <05397> of the Almighty <07706> hath given me life <02421> (08762).

KJV Job 34:10 Therefore hearken <08085> (08798) unto me, ye men <0582> of understanding <03824>: far be it <02486> from God <0410>, *that he should do* wickedness <07562>; and *from* the Almighty <07706>, *that he should commit* iniquity <05766>.

KJV Job 34:12 Yea, surely <0551> God <0410> will not do wickedly <07561> (08686), neither will the Almighty <07706> pervert <05791> (08762) judgment <04941>.

KJV Job 35:13 Surely God <0410> will not hear <08085> (08799) vanity <07723>, neither will the Almighty <07706> regard <07789> (08799) it.

KJV Job 37:23 *Touching* the Almighty <07706>, we cannot find him out <04672> (08804): *he is* excellent <07689> in power <03581>, and in judgment <04941>, and in plenty <07230> of justice <06666>: he will not afflict <06031> (08762).

KJV Job 40:2 Shall he that contends<07378> (08800) with the Almighty <07706> instruct <03250> *him*? he that reproves <03198> (08688) God <0433>, let him answer <06030> (08799) it.

KJV Psalm 68:14 When the Almighty <07706> scattered <06566> (08763) kings <04428> in it, it was *white* as snow <07949> (08686) in Salmon <06756>.

KJV Psalm 91:1 He that dwells <03427> (08802) in the secret <05643> place of the most High <05945> shall abide <03885> (08698) under the shadow <06738> of the Almighty <07706>.

KJV Isaiah 13:6 Howl <03213> (08685) ye; for the day <03117> of the LORD <03068> *is* at hand <07138>; it shall come <0935> (08799) as a destruction <07701> from the Almighty <07706>.

KJV Ezekiel 1:24 And when they went <03212> (08800), I heard <08085> (08799) the noise <06963> of their wings <03671>, like the noise <06963> of great <07227> waters <04325>, as the voice <06963> of the Almighty <07706>, the voice <06963> of speech <01999>, as the noise <06963> of an host <04264>: when they stood <05975> (08800), they let down <07503> (08762) their wings <03671>.

KJV Ezekiel 10:5 And the sound <06963> of the cherubims' <03742> wings <03671> was heard <08085> (08738) *even* to the outer <02435> court <02691>, as the voice <06963> of the Almighty <07706> God <0410> when he speaks <01696> (08763).

KJV Joel 1:15 Alas <0162> for the day <03117>! for the day <03117> of the LORD <03068> *is* at hand <07138>, and as a destruction <07701> from the Almighty <07706> shall it come <0935> (08799).

DHH