

Jehovah (Not Yahweh) Is LORD

Excerpt from [*HOAX of Biblical Proportions*](#)

by

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Many have probably heard people claiming to be “Christians” call God “Yahweh.” Many are a little surprised, having never before heard that name for God. The persons using the word take great pride in displaying their understanding of the “true” name of God. The speaker and listener usually don’t know that Yahweh is NOT the proper name for God. In reality, Yahweh is the name for a heathen weather god.

God’s true name is **Jehovah**. We find in Exodus 6:2-3, that God reveals his proper name, **Jehovah**.

And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the Lord: And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name **Jehovah** was I not known to them. Exodus 6:2-3 (AV)

Jehovah is the proper English translation of the Hebrew Tetragrammaton (YHVH). The minions of Satan in the Hebrew Roots (a.k.a. Sacred Name) movement have hoodwinked their followers into using the name Yahweh in place of Jehovah. They ignorantly think that Yahweh is the correct pronunciation of the Hebrew Tetragrammaton (YHVH), rather than Jehovah. They are wrong. Yahweh is a satanic trap set for the unlearned and gullible. It subverts people into worshiping a devil, Yahweh, in place of God Almighty, Jehovah. God’s name is Jehovah,; Yahweh is a heathen tribal god.

Dr. James White, who promotes the corrupt new Bible versions, says Jehovah is a false pronunciation of the Tetragrammaton: “Now, ‘Jehovah’ is a false pronunciation of the Hebrew word ‘YHWH,’ correctly pronounced ‘Yahweh.’ This is God’s ‘personal’ name in the Old Testament.”¹ This corruption is finding its way into the modern Bible translations. For example, the New Living Translation (NLT) has changed the passage where God identifies himself as Jehovah to having God identify himself as Yahweh.

AV

And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am **the LORD**: And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name **Jehovah** was I not known to them. Exodus 6:2-3 (AV)

NLT

And God said to Moses, "I am **Yahweh**—'the Lord.' I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as El-Shaddai—'God Almighty'—but I did not reveal my name, **Yahweh**, to them. Exodus 6:2-3 (NLT)

James White promotes the Legacy Standard Bible (LSB) as being more accurate than the King James Bible.² The LSB replaces God’s name, Jehovah, with the name Yahweh. Using the name Yahweh is not a different way of pronouncing God’s name. It is a replacement of God. Indeed, James White is emphatic that God’s name is NOT Jehovah. He claims that God’s true name is Yahweh, and it is impossible for his name to be Jehovah. “Yahweh is unquestionably the best pronunciation of the Divine name. **Jehovah is not even possible.**”³ James White and the LSB have rejected the true God, Jehovah, and replaced him with a heathen tribal god, Yahweh.

AV

And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am **the LORD**: And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name **JEHOVAH** was I not known to them. (Exodus 6:2-3 AV)

LSB

God spoke further to Moses and said to him, “I am **Yahweh**; and I appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name, **Yahweh**, I was not known to them.” (Exodus 6:2-3 LSB)

The rising popularity of the Hebrew Roots movement has spearheaded the recent upsurge in substituting Jehovah with Yahweh. The Hebrew Roots movement is a Zionist theology followed by Gentiles that emphasizes recovering Jewish legalism while claiming faith in Jesus. It is sometimes also called the Sacred Name movement. While those in the Hebrew Roots movement claim faith in Jesus, they have a different Jesus from the Biblical Jesus. There is no indication that James White is part of the Hebrew Roots movement. But his adoption of Yahweh is an indication of how portions of the Hebrew Roots theology are wafting into the ersatz “Christian” churches.

Unsurprisingly, the Bible for the Hebrew roots movement, the Hebraic Roots Bible, substituted YAHWEH in every instance where the Hebrew word for JEHOVAH (יהוה) appears. Psalms 83:18 is one example.

AV

That men may know that thou, whose name alone is **JEHOVAH**, art the most high over all the earth. (Psalms 83:18 AV)

Hebraic Roots Bible

And let them know you; that Your name is **YAHWEH**, and all life comes from you, the Most High over all the earth. (Psalms 83:18 Hebraic Roots Bible)

The Hebrew consonant letters that have been translated Jehovah in English are often called the Tetragrammaton with the Hebrew letters *yod-hey-vav-hey* (YHVH). The 'Y' in Hebrew takes on the "J" sound in English. There is no letter "J" in Hebrew. And the English alphabet did not have the letter "J" until the 16th century. But that does not mean that neither Hebrew nor English have the "J" sound in their words. Prior to the 16th century the English letter "I" was used for both the "I" sound and the "J" sound. Indeed, in the 1611 King James Bible, you will find that Jesus was spelled "Iesus," but "Iesus" was pronounced as "Jesus."

It was during the 16th century that the letter "J" was introduced to distinguish the "I" sound from the "J" sound in English. The Tyndale Bible, published in 1525, used "J."⁴ But that convention had not completely taken hold because the 1568 Bishops' Bible and the 1611 King James Bible used "I" for the "J" sound.

The "J" sound in Hebrew is represented by the letter *yod* (י), which is written as "Y" in English. Indeed, check out the Old testament Hebrew for Jerusalem. It is "Yeruwshalaim," but no English speaker uses the soft "Y" sound to pronounce Jerusalem.

Dr. John Hinton, who is a Hebrew language expert, addresses the issue of those that insist that the Hebrew letter *yod* (a.k.a., *jod*) (Y) should always be pronounced in English as a soft "Y" rather than a hard "J." Dr. Hinton states:

This is such an utterly silly and ignorant criticism that I find it embarrassing that there are actually Christians that present it as an argument. ... Y becomes a J in every name in English, French, and Spanish. In English the J is pronounced like J in Japan, while in French it is pronounced like S in pleasure, in Spanish it is pronounced like an H, in German it is pronounced like Y. This is a phonological and orthographical issue, not a theological one. There is no theological issue at stake in how one language interprets a certain phoneme. In every case of a name in Hebrew that begins with a *yod* (Y) it is pronounced with the appropriate phoneme for that language. This came about through phonological and orthographical changes in the developments of those languages. Even Hebrew itself went through huge phonological and orthographical changes in its long history. God's name is not a magic word to be chanted for power as the name cult seems to suggest for both the names of God and Jesus. My name [John] comes from a Hebrew word meaning given by God, which begins with a Y in Hebrew. It is Jean (zhan) in French, Juan (hwan) in Spanish, Giovanni in Italian, Hans in German, Yani in modern Greek, Ivan (eevan) in Russian, Yahya or Hanna (with a heavy H) in Arabic, and other variations exist in other

languages. They all translate as John and I have no trouble adapting to any of them within the respective cultures and there is no reason for me to be insulted by any of these names. On the other hand, being addressed by a made up name based on a pagan deity would insult me.

If these name cultists find the J so objectionable, why don't they refer to Elijah as Elaiyah, Jeramiah as Yeramaiyah, Jacob as Yakov, Jonathan as Yanatan, Jerusalem as Yerushaleem, and so forth. For that matter why don't they use the Hebrew pronunciation for all of the names in the Bible, such as Dahveed, Moshe (Moses), Shmu'el (Samuel), Sha'ul (Saul), Shlomo (Solomon), and so forth, if they consider the issue to be so important. Since those who call God by a name that is not even Hebrew at all, and since they do so without a scrap of evidence to override the very solid evidence to the contrary, why do they have any constraints at all about inventing whimsical pointings for other names in the Bible?

“The sound of the Hebrew letter jod came into English as the letter 'I,' used as a consonant and having the soft 'g' sound, like today's 'j.' In the past the letter 'I' was used as both a vowel (i) sound and as the consonant 'j' sound. The OED says that the sound of 'j,' though originally printed as 'I,' was pronounced as a soft 'g' (Oxford English Dictionary, Unabridged, 2nd Edition, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1991, s.v. J). The 'JE' sound in JEHOVAH was spelled 'IE' and pronounced as 'JE.' To distinguish the consonant sound (soft 'g') of the letter 'I' from the vowel sound of 'I,' many scribes in the 1200s began putting a tail on the soft 'g' 'I,' making it look like our modern 'J.' The Spanish, in the 1500s, were the first to more consistently try to distinguish the consonant I (soft 'g') sound as the shape of a 'J.' At that same time English printers used 'J' and 'I' fonts interchangeably. ... During the 1600s, most languages began consistently using the extended 'I' form, now called a 'J,' to represent the 'j' (soft 'g') sound.” [quoted in Riplinger, p. 418]⁵

The Hebrew consonant letters for Jehovah are יהוה. Those Hebrew letters are read from right to left; their English representations are written from left to right (YHVH). The Hebrew letters יהוה (YHVH) are only the consonant Hebrew letters without the vowel points. I will discuss the vowel points and their significance below. Hebrew words are read from right to left. And so *yod* (י) (Y or J), the tenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet is on the far right, followed by *hah* (ה) (H), the fifth letter of the Hebrew alphabet, followed by *vav* (ו) (V), which is the sixth letter of the Hebrew alphabet, and concluding with *hah* (ה) (H) again at the far left. It is commonly represented as YHVH; in English, it would be transliterated JHVH.

The Tetragrammaton (יהוה) (YHVH or JHVH) is properly translated into English as JEHOVAH. And it would be properly pronounced as Jehovah in English. The Hebrew letter *yod* (י), which is more correctly called *jod* in English (see Psalms 119:73 in the AV) takes on the “j” sound

in English. And so words that begin with *yod* take on the constant “j” sound, like Jerusalem, Joseph, and Jehovah, which all start with *yod* (י) (a.k.a., *jod*).

The next letter in the Tetragrammaton is *hah* (ה), which takes on the “h” sound in English. The next letter in the Tetragrammaton is *vav* (ו), which takes on the consonant sound “v” in English. That is followed by *hah* (ה) as the last letter. When you look at Psalms 119 in the AV you will find the Hebrew alphabet listed in order. At Psalms 119:73 you will find *yod* listed as *jod* (י) in the AV. That means that *yod* takes on a hard consonant “j” sound (as in *jod*) in the inspired English word of God.

It is essential for English speakers reading an English Bible to understand the name of God in English correctly because when you read Exodus 6:2-3, you will realize that God was speaking to Moses. God was telling Moses his name in an audible voice. It is, therefore, important to accurately understand the truth of what God said. If God said his name is “Jehovah,” which is how it is translated into English, then his name should be Jehovah in English.

E.W. Bullinger explains, “Jehovah means the Eternal, the Immutable One, He Who WAS, and IS, and IS TO COME. The Divine definition is given in Genesis 21:33.”⁶ (all capital letters in original) Nick Sayers explains: “In other words, God had appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob but not as ‘the Eternal, Immutable One.’ but as ‘God Almighty.’ But when God appeared to Moses, He made Himself known as Who He is, His very essence, i.e. Eternal.”⁷ Jesus is identified as Jehovah. The very name of Jesus means “Jehovah is salvation.” Jesus stated: “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.” Revelation 1:8. In that verse, we see that Jesus is thus revealing that he is Jehovah (i.e., the eternal God, who was, and is, and is to come). Is Yahweh, the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty? No! We will find out that Yahweh is the Midianite weather god.⁸

Later, when Moses penned Genesis, he used the word Jehovah to refer to the LORD. “These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD [יהוה] [Jehovah] God made the earth and the heavens,” (Genesis 2:4 AV)

But the heathen Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge undermines the sovereign deity of Jehovah and claims he is instead Yahweh, a heathen god worshiped by the nomadic Midianites:

Yahweh appears as an old deity of Sinai, revered in untold antiquity as a weather god, and as such brought by Moses to Israel, to him revealed through his connection with the Midianite priestly family.⁹

Thus, the Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia acknowledges that their rendition of YHVH as “Yahweh” is based on the encyclopedia writers’ belief that the Jews worshipped a heathen weather god of Sinai called Yahweh. The encyclopedia writers have a preconceived idea that serves to

undermine the divinity of Jehovah. The encyclopedia then claims that "the form was never pronounced as Yehovah (Jehovah)."¹⁰ But the writers of the encyclopedia offer no evidence to support their claims. Indeed, the encyclopedia is full of conjecture and qualifying statements like "it is supposed" and "the hypothesis of the Yahweh cult" and "it is highly improbable" and "rich harvest of suggestion of Yahweh" and "indications suggest." The entire entry is full of suppositions and guesses. The writers were just making things up. It is not scholarship. It is false propaganda. Indeed, their "the hypothesis of the Yahweh cult" is based on mere possibility. The encyclopedia entry says so.

“There remains the **possibility** that in the time before Moses a part of the people dwelt near Sinai and that by this part Yahweh was worshiped and that from it Moses learned of him.”¹¹

They have grafted the heathen god, Yahweh, in place of the Holy God, Jehovah. Historians state that Yahweh is one of the gods of the Syro-Palestinian pantheon, which included Baal. Heathen historians claim that Yahweh was adopted as a god by the Jews from the surrounding tribes and eventually emerged as the national god of Israel and Judah.

James Miller and John Hayes reveal that “Yahwehism and Baalism existed alongside each other with essentially the same cultic procedures and paraphernalia.”¹² The mythology of heathen historians is that it was later that Israel worshiped Yahweh as a monotheistic god.¹³ What becomes clear is that Yahweh is not an alternative pronunciation of YHWH. What is happening is that infidel historians in service of Satan are replacing God Almighty, Jehovah, with the heathen weather god, Yahweh.

John King, the translator and editor of John Calvin’s Commentary, cites the elaborate investigation of the origin and import of the name Jehovah by Ernst Wilhelm Hengstenberg (1802-1869), Professor Extraordinarius of Theology at Berlin. King discovered that Hengstenberg refuted the folklore of impious historians. He concluded that “יהוה (Jehovah) ... was not derived from any heathen source whatever. Consequently, it is to be traced to ‘a Hebrew etymology.’”¹⁴

Dr. Nehemia Gordon initially thought that Yahweh was how the Tetragrammaton (YHWH) was pronounced. He tried to track down the source of the Hebrew vowels for Yahweh. He researched extensively trying to find the authority for Yahweh as the pronunciation for the Tetragrammaton (YHWH). What he found surprised him. There was no ancient authority for the pronunciation of the Tetragrammaton (YHWH) as Yahweh.

What do we have in Jewish sources, and what do we have in Hebrew Bible manuscripts? There isn't a single Hebrew Bible manuscript that has Yahveh or Yahweh, nothing, nowhere, anywhere. There isn't a single Jewish source that has Yahweh. Let's say an ancient or medieval Jewish source.¹⁵

Dr. Gordon was trying to find authority for pronouncing the Tetragrammaton (YHWH) as

Yahweh. He contacted authorities from the Hebrew Roots movement to find out their source for Yahweh. Astoundingly, they admitted that the vowels for Yahweh have no Hebrew manuscript authority. They said that they constructed Yahweh from an unpointed Hebrew text. That is a text with no vowels.

That means that the Hebrew Roots movement is just making it up. They just inserted the vowels as they saw fit into the consonants of the Tetragrammaton (YHVH) to come up with the name Yahweh. The Hebrew roots people are doing the very same thing that the apostate Jews did when they created the unpointed Hebrew text so that they could make a passage mean whatever they wanted it to mean and not be restricted by the pesky vowels. An unpointed Hebrew text is virtually meaningless. An unpointed text allows a mischievous rabbi to give his private interpretation of what vowels to insert to give a verse its meaning. Dr. Gordon states:

I didn't have any manuscripts so I wrote to these Christian folks or maybe Hebrew Roots folks, who say Yahweh, and I say which vowels do I put in here? ... They said we don't use Hebrew vowels. Okay, but if it if you can't translate it into Hebrew, the Hebrew vowel system, then it has no meaning in Hebrew.¹⁶

Dr. Gordon cited 19 learned rabbis with eclectic backgrounds who, through history, all stated that Yehovah was the correct rendering of the Tetragrammaton (YHVH) in Hebrew. In Hebrew, it is pronounced Yehovah, whereas in English, it is pronounced Jehovah.

Right now have 19 rabbis who explicitly say that the vowels of the name are Yehovah ... in Hebrew. ... You could say they're wrong. But what you can't say is this [Jehovah] is something that was invented by ignorant Christians because we have multiple rabbis, who, some of them were aware of what the Christians were saying others had no clue what the Christians were saying, and they all believed it was Jehovah. ... There is no Rabbi in historical sources who says it's Yahweh or Yahveh.¹⁷

Yehovah in Hebrew would be Jehovah in English. Dr. Gordon could not find any source for Yahweh as the pronunciation of the Tetragrammaton (YHVH) before the German linguist Wilhelm Gesenius (1786-1842) in his Hebrew lexicon. Gesenius was the progenitor of pronouncing the Tetragrammaton (YHVH) as Yahweh.

Dr. Nehemia Gordon, Ph.D., researched the origins of Yahweh and was shocked to find out that Yahweh is not the God of the Bible, but is a pagan god worshipped by the Samaritans.¹⁸ The Romans worshipped Jupiter as the principal god in their henotheistic mythology. Josephus reveals that the Samaritans rededicated their temple to Jupiter (a.k.a., Zeus) in 168 B.C. The Samaritans called Jupiter Yoveh. In Latin, Yoveh was pronounced Yoweh, which ultimately became Yahweh.

Dr. Gordon quotes from Wilhelm Gesenius (1786-1842). Gesenius' Hebrew Lexicon is the foundation of Hebrew biblical studies at Hebrew University today. Gesenius championed the use of Yahweh as the name of God. Gesenius, in his Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon of the Old Testament

Scriptures, states: “I suppose this word [Yahweh] to be one of the most remote antiquity, perhaps of the same origin as Jovis, Jupiter, and transferred from the Egyptians to the Hebrews.”¹⁹

Gesenius, the most authoritative advocate for YHVH being pronounced Yahweh instead of Jehovah, let the cat out of the bag. He confirmed that Yahweh, the name he championed as the name of the God who communed with Moses, was the name of a heathen god originating in Egypt. That was too much information. Some infidel scholars wanted to introduce Yahweh in place of Jehovah, and they did not like it to be known (at least at the outset) that Yahweh was a heathen god.

One infidel scholar realized that something had to be done to undermine Gesenius's statement. Enter Samuel Prideaux Tregelles (1813-1875). Tregelles was a member of the English revision committee for the abominable Revised Version of the Bible. After Gesenius' death, Tregelles became the editor of Gesenius' lexicon. In that capacity, Tregelles took the opportunity to put brackets in a later edition of Gesenius' lexicon alleging that Gesenius retracted his statement about the heathen origins of Yahweh.²⁰

But the alleged statement of retraction sounds nothing like a retraction. In the alleged retraction, Gesenius referred to studies into derivations a “waste of time and labour.” That is not the same as saying that what he found in his analysis of the derivation of Yahweh was incorrect. Of course, there are infidels like Tregelles who are interested in undermining Gesenius's statement and would desire that Gesenius would retract his finding of the heathen origins of Yahweh. Such a finding of the heathen origins of Yahweh by someone as esteemed as Gesenius, who championed the name, Yahweh, would be a damning indictment against using Yahweh to refer to God. And that is what Tregelles argued against. Tregelles said: “What an idea! God himself revealed this [Yahewh] as his own name; the Israelites could never have received it from the Egyptians.”²¹ Tregelles has an interest in undermining evidence of the heathen origins of Yahweh. He wants people to think that YHVH should be translated as Yahweh. After examining the evidence, Dr. Gordon concluded that Yahweh is NOT another way to pronounce Jehovah, the Tetragrammaton (YHVH), but is, in fact, a pagan deity, just as Gesenius revealed.²²

Yahweh is not Jehovah. Modern scholars have confirmed what Gesenius revealed about the origins of Yahweh as a heathen god. They have taken up Gesenius's torch and argue, as he did, that YHVH (יהוה) is not the eternal God, Jehovah, but is instead a heathen god, Yahweh. For example, Daniel E. Fleming, Ph.D., researched the origin of Yahweh and determined it is the name of a heathen god. He has alleged that the heathen god, Yahweh, was absorbed and worshipped by the Jews. Dr. Fleming is the Ethel and Irvin A. Edelman Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at New York University. Fleming is the author of many scholarly books.

In Fleming's book *Yahweh before Israel: Glimpses of History in a Divine Name*, he opines that Yahweh is not the name of the eternal God of heaven. Fleming researched the origins of Yahweh. He found reference to Yahweh in ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics. He states that the name, Yhw3, pronounced “Yahweh” originated as the name of a nomadic people of Shasu-land that eventually became the name of a heathen god, Yahweh. He argues that the heathen god, Yahweh,

was then adopted by the Jews during their sojourn in the desert after God rescued them from their Egyptian captivity.

Fleming opines that that Yhw³ of Shasu-land was a people, and that name became later the god Yahweh. He opined that “the people understood themselves to have as a divine patron a god so fully identified with them as to share their name.”²³

Prof. Israel Knohl, Ph.D., is the Yehezkel Kaufmann Professor of Bible at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and a senior research fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute. He holds a Ph.D. in Bible from Hebrew University. Knohl has written numerous highly acclaimed academic publications. Knohl mostly agrees with Dr. Fleming.

Dr. Fleming argues for a Shasu origin for Yahweh, which arguably excludes Midianites as the origin. But Dr. Knohl argues that while it was in the land of Shasu where the Jews adopted Yahweh, it was under the influence of the Midianites. Dr. Knohl states that “It thus appears that the Hebrews adopted the Midianite deity YHW or YHWH [Yahweh], whom they came to know in their stay in the area of Seir – Edom which is in “the land of Shasu YHW.”²⁴ Dr. Knohl argues that YHWH is a heathen god, Yahweh, which was adopted by the Jews.

But how did the deity YHW [Yahweh] become transformed into the God of Israel?
... It thus appears that the Hebrews adopted the Midianite deity YHW or YHWH, whom they came to know in their stay in the area of Seir – Edom which is in “the land of Shasu YHW.”²⁵

Unsurprisingly, the New International Version (NIV) Bible publishers have taken the position that “the majority opinion today is that ‘Yahweh’ is the original pronunciation”²⁶ of the tetragrammaton, YHWH. The NIV writes the tetragrammaton YHWH instead of YHVH because it more closely comports with its mythology that the tetragrammaton is pronounced, “Yahweh.” The NIV wants to migrate people toward the worship of the heathen god, Yahweh.

One clue that Yahweh and Jehovah are not the same is that they carry two different meanings. Hebraist Dr. Nehemia Gordon, Ph.D., explains that Jehovah literally means He who was, He who is, and He who will be.²⁷ Dr. Israel Knohl explains that Yahweh has an entirely different meaning. He states:

God reveals his name to Moses as “I am” from the Hebrew root, “being.” The name YHWH, [Yahweh] however, originates in Midian, and derives from the Arabic term for “love, desire, or passion.” ... [T]he name of Yahweh means Impassioned. It reflects Yahweh's passionate love for his worshippers.²⁸

Yahweh and Jehovah carry two different meanings because Yahweh is NOT Jehovah. Jehovah is the eternal God of heaven, who was, who is, and who will be. In contrast, Yahweh is a heathen god of passion.

How did they change the *vav* (ו), which has a hard “v” sound to the soft w in Yahweh? It was started with the apostate Germans who wrote “w,” for the hard “v” sound in the German language. The Schaff–Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge was based on an earlier German encyclopedia, the *Realencyklopädie für protestantische Theologie und Kirche*. When transliterating from German to English, many English speakers often miss that the German “w” is pronounced like the English “v.” For example, the German *Wagner* would be pronounced by a German as “Vagner,” although it would still be spelled Wagner. What an English speaker would call *wiener schnitzel* with a soft “w” sound a German would call “veiner schnitzel” with a hard “v” sound. But the German spelling would remain as *wiener schnitzel*; the w would take on the “v” sound. When the German was transliterated into English, the English speakers read the “w” not as a hard “v” sound but as a soft “w” sound. That soft English “w” has given rise to the change causing the erroneous “weh” sound in Yahweh. Dr. John Hinton, Ph.D., states that “the Hebrew *vav* is pronounced as V not W. This error came about due to the misreading of German Hebrew grammars, which use W for the English V.”²⁹ Riplinger explains:

Where did the phony ‘weh’ sound in Yahweh come from? As Green said, “German sources.” In German “the ‘v’ sound is rendered by the ‘double u’ (‘w’). Although the German critics spelled the name Yahweh, they pronounced it, Yahveh. ... Because Germans use the letter ‘w’ for the ‘v’ sound, those reading or translating German theological works have brought in the German letter ‘w’ for ‘v.’ It is not to be pronounced like an English ‘w,’ but like a ‘v.’”³⁰

Changing what God said his name is (Jehovah) to Yahweh is changing what God said. Yahweh is not at all Jehovah. Yahweh is a heathen god. And the original promoters of Yahweh say so. God has commanded us not to even mention the names of other gods. Imagine his displeasure against those who would change his scriptures to replace his name “Jehovah” with a heathen god, “Yahweh.”

And in all things that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth. (Exodus 23:13 AV)

This modern trend of pronouncing the Tetragrammaton as Yahweh instead began in Germany. Gail Riplinger explains:

In the 19th century, as unbelieving German critics of the Bible were hammering away at the word of God, they tried to refashion God’s name, JEHOVAH. They asserted that the God of Israel’s name should be pronounced Yahweh because, to them, he was nothing more than an offshoot of the pagan deity “Yaho.”³¹

That corruption by the German liberals was a deviation from the traditional translation of YHVH as Jehovah. Gail Riplinger reveals:

In his scholarly book, *A Dissertation Concerning the Antiquity of the Hebrew*

Language, Letters, Vowel-Points and Accents, John Gill (1697-1771), eminent theologian and writer, documents the use of the very name JEHOVAH from before 200 B.C. and throughout the centuries of the early church and the following millennium. ... Even commentators such as Nicholas of Lyra, Tostatus, Cajetan, and Bonfrere defended the pronunciation 'JEHOVAH' as received by Moses on Mt. Horeb. The name is found in the writings of Raymund Martin in the 1200s and Porchetus in the 1300s. Theodore Beza, Galatinus, and Cajetan, among many others, use it in the 1500s. Scholars such as Michaelis, Drach and Stier proved the name as the original. The 1602 Spanish Bible uses the name Iehova and gave a lengthy defense of the pronunciation Jehovah in its preface. In "the 17th century the pronunciation JEHOVAH was zealously defended by Fuller, Gataker, Leusden and others."³²

But the heathen servants of Satan got to it and sought to undermine Jehovah and replace him with their heathen god, Yahweh. Gail Riplinger elaborates:

Genebrardus seems to have been the first to suggest the pronunciation Iahue [pronounced Yahweh], but it was not until the 19th century that it became generally accepted" (EB, pp. 311-314). Anti-Semitic German liberals, like Driver and Delitzsch, eagerly grasped the new pronunciation, Yahweh. They and other unsaved 'higher critics,' denied that the Old Testament was actually given by God. They grasped at any straw to shelter their unbelief, asserting that the Old Testament was the creation of men who adopted and adapted stories, words, and names from neighboring pagan religions and languages. The higher critics used the new pronunciation, Yahweh, as so-called proof that the God of Israel was nothing more than a tribal god, whose name had evolved from pagan gods like Yaho or Ya-ve, worshipped by the Babylonians and Canaanites, the Hebrews' captors and neighbors. They said, Yahweh "meant Destroyer."³³

Dr. Hinton explains that the Hebrew text does not support the soft English "W". It is wrong to translate the Hebrew *vav* (ו) in English as "W."

Those who are opposed to the KJV and call God by name Yahweh are not only giving an erroneous pronunciation of his name according to the pointing of the text, but according to the pronunciation of the Hebrew itself. As Gail Riplinger astutely points out in her *Awe of Thy Word*, the Hebrew *vav* is pronounced as V not W. This error came about due to the misreading of German Hebrew grammars, which use W for the English V (note: the German V is pronounced like the English F). If these Bible "correctors" want to ignore the Hebrew text and pronounce his name as suggested by 19th century atheistic mythologists, they should use the name Yahveh so that at least they would appear less ignorant. It always puzzled me to hear atheistic scholars at Harvard pronounce the name as Yahweh when the same scholars would always pronounce the *vav* as a V every other place that they use it. Apparently this

perversion of his name has become so well established within the Bible-scoffing and Bible-correcting communities that even those who know better mispronounce even the perverted variation of his name. It confused me that they would pronounce it as if it were an Arabic word instead of Hebrew word until I understood the purpose of the corruption.³⁴

Dr. Nehemia Gordon, Ph.D., is a Hebraist who has worked as a translator on the Dead Sea Scrolls and a researcher deciphering ancient Hebrew manuscripts.³⁵ He confirms the opinion of Dr. Hinton. Dr. Gordon states that the proper pronunciation of the Hebrew *vav* (ו) is with the hard “v” sound. He states that Arabic also has a *vav* (و), and it is pronounced as “wow” in Arabic because Arabic does not have a “va” sound. But Arabic is not Hebrew, and the Hebrew *vav* (ו) is pronounced with a hard “v.” Dr. Gordon states that the only Jews who pronounce the *vav* (ו) with a soft “w” sound are Jews in Arabic lands who are speaking Arabic.³⁶ The soft “w” sound is an Arabic pronunciation of *vav* (ו); it is not Hebrew. Thus, Yahweh is an incorrect pronunciation of YHVH (יהוה).

Satan’s minions have created a little deception. He has his own set of lying alleged Hebraists who claim that the historical pronunciation of *vav* is with a “w.” Jeff A. Benner is an example. Benner is an adherent to the Hebrew Roots theology.³⁷ He claims first that the King James Bible is not the inspired word of God. He also claims that the Old Testament was written in an “Old Hebrew” that is different from the Hebrew we see today. Armed with his new, made-up Hebrew, Benner can argue that the original sound for *vav* in ancient Hebrew was a soft “w” and not the hard “v,” as in modern Hebrew.

Jeff A. Benner has used his new reconstructed Hebrew phonics to claim that YHVH should be read as Yahweh and not JEHOVAH.³⁸ Dr. Nehemia Gordon has completely impeached Benner and has proven that Benner’s claim is wrong.³⁹ Regarding the letter *vav* (ו), Dr. Gordon explains that the proper pronunciation of the Hebrew *vav* (ו) is with the hard “v” sound. Dr. Gordon states that the claim that *vav* (ו) has ever been pronounced as “wow” is simply wrong. It is only in Arabic that *vav* (ו) is pronounced as “wow.” Dr. Gordon proved that *vav* (ו) has always been pronounced as “v” in ancient and modern Hebrew. He demonstrated that fact with two words from the ancient Hebrew in Ezekiel.⁴⁰

In the book of Ezekiel at 10:12, we find the Hebrew word *gav* (גב), meaning back(s). Reading the Hebrew word right to left, the second letter in that word is a *beyt* (ב). When *beyt* (ב) appears at the end of the word it takes on the “v” sound, hence *gav*. In Ezekiel 23:35 we also find the Hebrew word *gav* (גב). But this time, the second letter is a *vav* (ו) which takes on the “v” sound because, again, the Hebrew word is *gav* (meaning back). These are two Hebrew words, both meaning "back." They are actually the same word, with the same pronunciation, “*gav*,” meaning back. They are just spelled differently. But in Ezekiel 23:35, *gav* (back) is spelled using a *vav* (ו) as the second letter, which necessarily must take on the “v” sound to get “*gav*.” The only way this would be possible is if the letter *vav* (ו) in the word *gav* (גב) were pronounced with a “v.” Ezekiel was written circa 592 to 570 B.C. and would be ancient Hebrew. The Ezekiel passages containing *gav* with two different

spellings with one containing a *vav* (ו) are proof that that *vav* (ו) has always taken on the “v” sound in Hebrew.

Put another way, the Hebrew word for “back” is *gav*. The second consonant sound at the end of *gav* is *beyt* (ב) in Ezekiel 10:12. *Beyt* takes on the “v” sound at the end of a Hebrew word. *Gav* (back) is always pronounced with a “v” sound. That fact is established beyond any doubt. When we read *gav*, meaning back, again in Ezekiel 23:35, this time spelled differently in Hebrew, with the second consonant letter *vav* (ו), it can only mean one thing. *Vav* (ו) takes on the “v” sound in Ezekiel 25:35. Ezekiel 10:12 rendering of *gav* confirms the Ezekiel rendering of *gav* in Ezekiel 23:35. That means that *vav* (ו) takes on the “v” sound in ancient Hebrew, just as in modern Hebrew.

Jeff A. Benner was unwilling to budge from his erroneous position when Dr. Gordon proved that *vav* (ו) has always taken on the “v” sound in ancient and modern Hebrew.⁴¹ He realized that if he yielded that point his Hebrew Roots’ house of cards would collapse. Benner’s opinion is corrupted by his belief that the English AV Bible is not the inspired word of God and that God’s name is Yahweh.⁴² Benner has an agenda to maintain the myth that the original pronunciation for *vav* is “w” which is one of the keystones for the claim that God’s name is Yahweh and not Jehovah.⁴³ Benner cares not for the truth.

Satan figured out a way to change Jehovah into Yahweh by removing the vowel points that locked in Jehovah as the name of God. Satan and his minions had to reduce the Hebrew scripture to only the consonants before they could fill in their own vowels. They started with JEHOVAH, removed the vowels, and ended up with JHVH; they then transformed that into YHVH and, ultimately, YHWH. With the vowels gone, they could argue that YHWH means YAHWEH.

In order for that scheme to work, they needed to float a lie that the original Hebrew scriptures did not have vowel points. They claimed that the vowel points were added much later and were not part of the inspired scriptures. Did the Hebrew original scripture have vowels? Yes they did. The modern popular deception that the original Hebrew scriptures had no vowels is a lie constructed by Jews and their fellow travelers who want to conceal the prophecies about Jesus Christ and undermine the authority of God. The Jews removed the points that indicated vowel sounds in the scripture they used in their synagogues so that they could then reconstruct a phony scripture to conceal the deity of Jesus Christ.

Below are two representations of the Tetragrammaton (YHVH or JHVH). The one on the left is without any vowel points and the one on the right is pointed with vowels. The pointed version of the Tetragrammaton was the Hebrew text from which the AV English was translated.

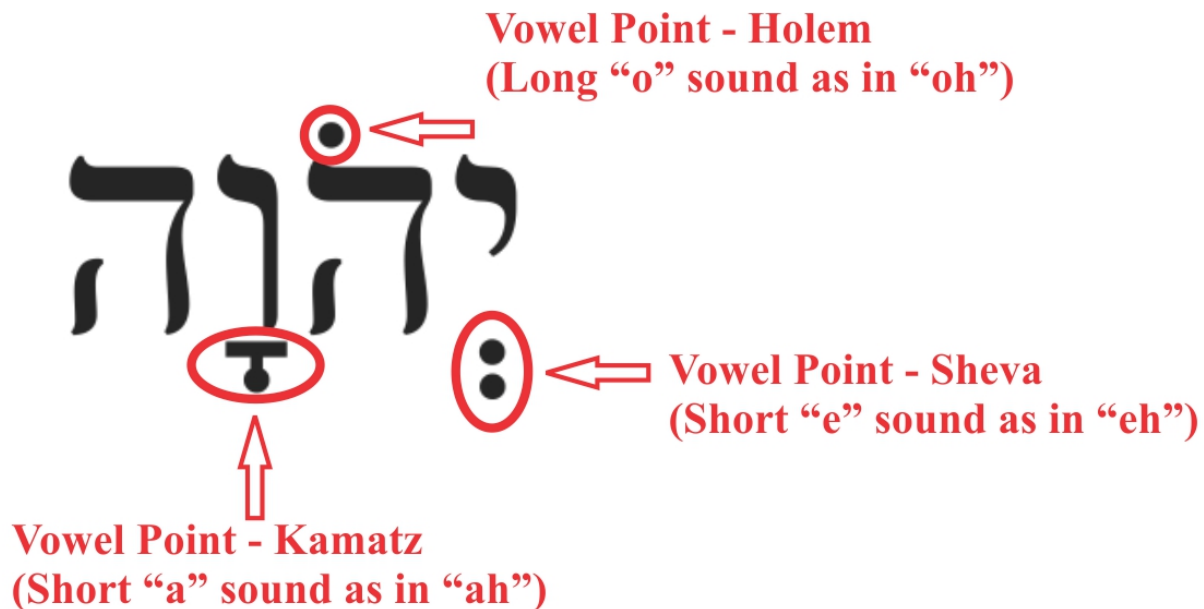
יהוה

YHVH Without Vowel Points

יהוה־י

JEHOVAH With Vowel Points

In the graphic below, you can see how the different vowel points lock in the word Jehovah. Recall that you must read Hebrew from right to left. The consonant are *yod* (י), on the far right, followed by *hah* (ה), followed by *vav* (ו), and concluding with *hah* (ה) again at the far left. When translated into English with the vowel points the word is Jehovah. With the vowel points, it is impossible to translate YHVH as Yahweh.



Above is the Hebrew word for JEHOVAH reading right to left. ←
The vowels are indicated by the circled points. The consonants are, from right to left, *yod* (י) (J), *hah* (ה) (H), *vav* (ו) (V), and *hah* (ה) (H).

Vowels in Hebrew are represented by marks called points. John Gill (1697-1771) traced the authenticity of the Hebrew Bible’s vowel points back through the centuries to Moses.⁴⁴ His extensive research proves that the Hebrew Bible was written with vowel points. Gill found that the claim that vowel points were added around 1000 A.D. is a myth that does not stand up to the historical evidence.

Not only that, but God himself informs us that the Hebrew scriptures were written with vowel points. Jesus stated: "For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, **one jot or one tittle** shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." (Matthew 5:18 AV) A jot is "the least part of anything."⁴⁵ A tittle is a "small stroke or point in writing."⁴⁶ It is "[a] dot or other small mark used as a diacritic."⁴⁷ A diacritic is "a sign placed above or below a character or letter to indicate that it has a different phonetic value, is stressed, or for some other reason."⁴⁸ That is precisely what is done in Hebrew with the vowel points.

The jots and titles to which Jesus referred are an allusion to the diacritical marks used in Hebrew to designate the vowel sounds. Jesus was speaking about "the law," which is a reference to the law as it appeared in the Hebrew scriptures. That indicates that the original Hebrew scriptures had vowel points. That passage in Matthew 5:18 impeaches the claim that the vowel points were a later emendation made by men to the inspired Hebrew scriptures. The vowel points were, in fact, there from the beginning. And that is precisely what John Gill found in his extensive research.

Unpointed Hebrew Old Testament texts (Jews call it the Tanakh) have been constructed by Jews in order to have text that allows for wider interpretation and manipulation. Gill stated that without any points (vowels) a combination of consonants could be used to create up to ten different words. John Gill reveal explains:

There are other reasons why unpointed copies are kept and used in the synagogues of the Jews. They may help us to ascertain the origin of this custom and the reason for its continuance. One reason that the Cabalists, and those who interpreted the scriptures allegorically, might have the opportunity of establishing their own various senses of them. An unpointed Bible will do this, but a pointed Bible will not. ... This is what R. Bechai plainly suggested was the original cause and reason for using unpointed copies: "Letters which are not pointed give various senses. They are divided into various meanings. Because of this we are commanded not to point the book of the law because the literal sense of every word is according to the punctuation. There is only one literal sense in a pointed word, but an unpointed word a man may understand many ways and find out many wonderful and excellent things."⁴⁹

Armed with the unpointed text, the Jews could rewrite the scriptures to their liking. Of course, the that is not new for the Jews. They are repeat offenders. Jesus explained:

Howbeit in vain do they worship me, Teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For **laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men**, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well **ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition**. Mark 7:7-9.

Gill concluded that a particular motivation for the Jews to remove the vowel points was to

change the meaning of passages in the Bible. For example, we find in the Chabad: The Complete Jewish Bible that in Isaiah 9:6, they removed the prophecy regarding the birth of Jesus Christ, who is to be called the "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." They replace it with a passage where God calls a child "the prince of peace." That corrupted passage in the Jewish Bible removes the eternal deity of Christ as the "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father." Note that the Chabad Complete Jewish Bible is missing the verse at Isaiah 9:1 and so Isaiah 9:6 is numbered Isaiah 9:5 in the Chabad Complete Jewish Bible.

AV

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and **his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.** (Isaiah 9:6 AV)

Chabad Jewish Bible

For a child has been born to us, a son given to us, and the authority is upon his shoulder, and **the wondrous adviser, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, called his name, "the prince of peace."** Isaiah 9:5 (Isaiah 9:6 in English Bibles) Chabad: The Complete Jewish Bible.

All one need do is read the Bible and it becomes clear that the Hebrew scriptures were written with vowel points. For instance, in Deuteronomy 27:8, God commands: "And thou shalt write upon the stones all the words of this law very **plainly**." How were the Jews to write plainly all the words of God's law without using vowel points. There is no way to be faithful to God's commands by only using consonants and no vowels, which would not be writing plainly; it would be obfuscation.

Dr. John Hinton, Ph.D., deconstructs the myth that the original Hebrew scriptures did not have vowel points.

First we must deal with the common myth and that is that there are no vowels expressed in the Hebrew text. This is a convenient line of nonsense for those who want to change the text to fit their own views, but it is a dishonest line. Elaborate diacritic marks, called pointing by English-speaking Hebrew scholars, provide extensive information for vowels, doubled letters, stops, and other phonological features. Bible "correctors" are either ignorant of this fact or they pretend that they do not exist. Those who are aware of them and argue that they may be ignored because they were introduced into the text by the Massoretes at a later date are giving themselves free rein to alter virtually every word in the entire Hebrew Old Testament. Not only do these biblical detractors deny God's promise to forever preserve his word, every jot and tittle, but they open the door for Bible manipulation that has no other criteria than personal judgment or fancy. If we are to deny the Masoretic reading we can do no end of mischief to the text by inserting our own vowels, doubled letters, and stops. This allows us to change positives into negatives, passives into actives and vice versa, statement verbs into causative verbs and vice versa, to

convert verbs into nouns and vice versa, and to even change the entire meaning of the verb itself. Many words could have several or even a dozen different varied meanings by toying with the pointing. Furthermore, some diacritics indicate different letters entirely. A dot over the right side of a shin indicates an SH, while a dot over the left side of it indicates an S. A dot inside of a vav is pronounced like a long U while a dot over the vav turns it into an O, so the removal or addition of such a dot is fair game to the Yahweh crowd. A dot inside a Pe is pronounced like P, while if it lacks a dot it becomes an F. Similarly a Bet with a dot is a B and a V without one. A number of other letters have similar features of changing their sounds according to the presence or position of a dot. If we are to ignore the vowel pointings, we are equally justified in changing S to SH and vice versa, or many other consonant changes, since the Massoretes were responsible for the consonant identifying diacritics as well. Suggestions to alter the text is a common method of attacking the Bible that has been employed by Bible-scoffing scholars in academia for over 100 years, it is a common practice that I encountered frequently among fellow students in Hebrew classes. The practice is taught and encouraged by those who consider the Bible to be mythology.

It is amazing to see this being done by people who claim to honor the Bible. Dr. G.A. Riplinger, in her tome, *In Awe of His Word*, points out that ignoring the vowel marks in the Hebrew allow Jews and atheists to remove future references to our Saviour from the Old Testament by toying with these vowels. [Riplinger, pp. 433-434]. For this reason vowelless Tanakhs (Hebrew name for Old Testament) are sometimes used. In fact, if the Masoretic diacritics are ignored, there is scarcely a word in the entire Bible, if there is any at all, that cannot be altered or changed completely. Why is it that alleged Bible-believers think that it is wrong to change words in the Bible into entirely different words, but it is alright to ignore the reading of the Hebrew text and alter the name of God without any evidence to support their altered reading other than the opinion of 19th century atheists? In fact, they are changing it when linguistic evidence shows that the pronunciation that they are using is wrong.⁵⁰

The vowel points added to YHVH prove that the Hebrew YHVH cannot be translated into Yahweh. Yahweh is missing a vowel. There are three vowel points. Yahweh only has two vowels. *Vav* (ו) can only be pronounced as a hard “v” sound in this context. Yahweh argues for a soft “w” sound. The soft “w” sound is an Arabic pronunciation of *vav* (ו); it is not Hebrew.⁵¹ The soft vowel sound required for Yahweh makes no sense; since, in this context, the *vav* (ו) would be preceded by the vowel point holem having a long “o” sound and followed by another vowel point Kamatz with a short “a” sound. That would be three vowel sounds in a row. If we stick with the three vowel points and go with the soft consonants preferred by the Yahweh camp, the actual pronunciation for Yahweh ends up being Yahowah (Y-eh-h-oh-ow-ah-h). That sounds nothing like Yahweh. The proper construction should be Jehovah (J-eh-h-oh-v-ah-h). Finally, the correct English translation for *yod* (י) requires a hard “J” sound. Indeed, all the Hebrew words starting with *yod* (י) like Joseph, Jerusalem, Jericho, etc. are translated with a hard “J” sound in English. But Yahweh needs a soft “Y” sound.

The vowel points in the original Hebrew scriptures impeach the claim that the Tetragrammaton YHVH is Yahweh. The clear evidence establishes that the AV translation of Jehovah is correct. Dr. John Hinton explains how the duped “Christians” are being led astray by ignorantly following the superstitious beliefs of heathen scholars and their god, Yahweh.

What is amusing is that those who make a big deal out of the conversion to J, and who contradict the Bible by calling God Yahweh while still calling themselves Bible-believers generally know about as much about Hebrew as the average Australian aborigine knows about Lithuanian. It troubles me how very few people realize that the god that they now worship, named Yahweh, is derived from a storm god created by atheist scholars following in the steps of the late 19th century skeptics, and that these atheists are feeding them much of their theology.⁵²

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50. John Hinton, Ridiculous KJV Bible Corrections: Who is Yahweh?, <https://av1611.com/kjbp/ridiculous-kjv-bible-corrections/Yahweh-Jehova-YHVH.html> (last visited on November 16, 2023).

51. Nehemia Gordon, Hebrew Voices #66 – The Historical Pronunciation of Vav, February 28, 2018, <https://www.nehemiaswall.com/historical-pronunciation-vav>. Also found at: The Pronunciation of the Hebrew Letter Vav (Nehemia Gordon), September 16, 2016, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0td4d2UGP0k&t=524s>. Jeff A. Benner knows Dr. Gordon's opinion. Benner maintains that *vav* originally took on the "waw" sound. He states that the "v" sound is a modern Hebrew form. Benner is unwilling to budge on his opinion that *vav* originally had a "w" sound even when faced with proof that he is wrong. See, e.g., Nehemia Gordon on the Pronunciation of the Letter Vav, <https://ancient-hebrew.org/ancient-alphabet/vav-discussion.htm> (last visited on November 18, 2023). Benner's opinion is skewed by his belief that God's name is Yahweh. The Way of Yahweh (Part 1 of 5), April 28, 2010, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfP6yNbU61A>. It seems that Benner has an agenda to maintain the myth that the original pronunciation for *vav* is "w." See Vav, <https://ancient-hebrew.org/ancient-alphabet/vav.htm> (last visited on November 14, 2023). Jeff A. Benner, Ancient Hebrew Alphabet - Lesson 6 - Vav, April 10, 2013, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ota0EAf2iQM>.

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