

Hi, I'm Mariel Davenport.

Welcome to this tending moment as we seek to tend our soul by the word of God.

God reveals Himself so perfectly in his word through His son and through His names.

The most foundational name He offers is His memorial name that He first revealed to Moses in Exodus 3:14-15 in response to Moses when he asked by what authority he was to say he was sent to lead Israel.

But God reveals himself by this name in Scripture even sooner than exodus.

All the way back in the garden, this name of God is uncovered in Scripture when man is first created. God is referred to as Elohim in the Hebrew, translated "God" in English throughout creation. But when the creation of man is unpacked, reference to God becomes LORD God. This is translated from the Hebrew Yahweh Elohim. Elohim is Creator. But Yahweh is the same memorial name He reveals later to Moses.

Yahweh is the relational covenant name of God. It is only ever used in reference to his relationship with man. Only His people are offered that name and that covenant with him. We see it even in this first mention of it in Genesis. All throughout chapter 2 as man is placed in the garden, his covenant relational Yahweh is there.

By striking contrast in chapter 3 we see the shift as Satan enters the scene.

Satan in 3:1 refers to Him as God, Elohim, Creator, all of creation knows this is so. But he never refers to Him as Yahweh.

But once Adam and Eve have sinned and are shamefully hiding, who is it that pursues them in covenant redeeming relationship?

V8 "And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day"  
Then in v 9 "the LORD God called to the man and said, 'where are you?'"

Yahweh is the initiator and pursuer of His people and of relationship with us. He reaches out with an outstretched arm to redeem and draw His people to Himself.

The beauty of this name is found in its fulfillment.

The OT names of God do not drop off as Malachi closes. In fact, every OT name of God is still fully true of God in the NT in the person of Jesus.

In Matthew 1:21 the angel reveals to Joseph that the name of this coming Messiah would be exactly that, a fulfillment of this memorial name of God that Joseph and all of Israel would have known well. The angel tells Joseph, "She will bear a son and you shall call his name Jesus, (meaning Yahweh Saves in Hebrew) for he will save his people from their sins."

He came with a purpose.

He came for relationship and intimacy in a covenant that He would uphold for eternity with His people. It began in the garden as He created man and then pursued him even in his sin and

rebellion. And it continued in the NT as He came as a sacrifice for the very ones who would kill him. And he is still reaching out with a redeeming hand towards you and I.  
We can tether our hearts to the grace found in Yahweh Saves.

So what might need redemption in your life today? Are you in need of grace, forgiveness, healing, reconciliation? He is available and very willing to draw near. Call on Yahweh and tether your heart to the truth of His grace found in Psalm 103:1-5.

God bless you today, sweet friend!