

05.30.2010 (Sun)

The Lord God (Hos 12:5)

Name and existence are one and the same. Gen 2:19 says, "*He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.*" As we can see from this verse, name is existence. Therefore, things without a name is without recognition, even if they exist.

In some ways, it is the same as not existing. Or, it could also mean that it did not fully come into existence yet. As a matter of fact, let's look at the name *Adam*. *Adam*, in Hebrew, stands for the common noun for "man". Since when did *Adam* become *man*? Gen 5:2 shows us that when male and female became one, they were called "man".

Though Adam had given names for all other creatures in existence, he himself did not yet receive a name from God, his Creator. He needed to have a helper to be created from his own bones. Let us come to understand the meaning of bones! Woman, who was to help him, was created from his own bones. But their union was broken when they fell to serpent's temptation. Thus, Rev 2:17 teaches us that he who overcomes receives a new name.

Dear friends, let's not forget that we overcome by the faith we put in the Word (1 Jn 5:4). Just as one must pass the test to get in the register of names, Adam and Eve had to pass the serpent's test to receive their names. With the faith you put into God's word and in prayer, we can overcome the world and ourselves (Jn 1:14, 16:33). He who overcomes has a name, and God helps all to overcome.

So, do not grow tired and weary or give up on those things we must overcome. We must live eternally in order for Satan to lose. That is why Hos 6:3 teaches us the following: "*Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him.*" You know, eternal life is to know God (Jn 17:3). "*Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.*"

We come to know God through the Word. The Word *is* God. Jn 1:1 testifies to this saying, "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*" We understand the Lord God through the Word. *Yahweh* means "*I am who I am*" (Ex 3:13-14). Our Lord God Almighty does not belong to anyone, nor does He exist with anyone's help. He is the creator who exists on His own (Isa 45:12).

The Lord is God's name of renown (Hos 12:5). Renown in Hebrew is *zeker* meaning "*remembrance*" or "*memorial*". Jn 3:16 proclaims to us that God so loved the world, but how did He love the world? As the Lord God! So, take each day to remember him, who demonstrated His love of the cross. In your daily life, remember Him who lets light shine out of darkness, Him who gives us victory, Him who is always with us to the very end, remember Him (2 Co 4:6, Hos 12:3-6)!

The Lord God is the God of salvation. Gen 2:7 reveals to us the God who created Adam. "*The Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.*" Dust is this world. Adam originally belonged to the earth, but once God gave him the breath of life, he became a living being (1 Cor 15:45-47). In a world that did not know God, Adam was the first to have the image of God.

Rom 5:14 proclaimed that Adam was the pattern of the one to come. The "one to come" signifies the Messiah and so this implies that Adam was the pattern Jesus Christ, our Savior. The translated word for "pattern" in Greek is *tupos* meaning "*type, pattern, figure, example*". This meant that Adam's purpose involved salvation. And He who created this Adam was none other than the Lord God. For this reason, the Lord God is the God of redemption.

Jesus Christ is the Lord God. Jn 8:24 says, "*I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am the one I claim to be, you will indeed die in your sins.*" In this verse, Jesus is trying to tell us that *He* is the Lord God, the God of redemption who forgives our sins. And that is why we later see in Jn 10:30, Jesus saying, "*I and the Father are one.*"

Jesus Christ is the God of covenant (Pr 8:22-36, 1 Co 15:3-4). He has promised us eternal life, and He is God who fulfills that promise (1 Jn 2:25, Heb 6:18, Isa 14:24). He is the Lord God because he fulfills all promises, and Jesus Christ, who is a God of Promise, is a beautiful God. The splendor of God is eternal life. This eternal life is in Jesus Christ (1 Jn 5:11). Because our God is eternal, He is majestic (Ps 8:1).

Beloved friends, to be *beautiful* is akin to *perfection* or *completion*. A synonym to *beauty* is *fine*, and the Latin word for *fine* is "*finire*" meaning "*to finish*". The *completion* of life is found in *eternal life*. So, our name is being prepared for completion as we wait faithfully for the second coming of our Lord (Rev 2:17)! Do not fall from faith as you believe in God, but stay in the Lord until at last, we see the glory and splendor of our Lord (Isa 35:2)!