

How the Divine Name Was Replaced

In the original Hebrew Torah and Prophets, the Creator's personal covenant Name appears over 6,800 times as:

YHWH יהוה

This is not a title.

It is His personal covenant Name.

Ancient Israelites wrote it, read it, and spoke it openly for centuries.

Then something changed.

Around the late Second Temple period about 300 to 100 BC

a tradition developed where scribes stopped pronouncing the Name out loud, out of reverence.

Instead of saying YHWH, they would say:

Adonai, which means "my master" or "my lord."

Important point:

They did not remove the Name from the text.

They only substituted it in speech, not in writing.

So, the scrolls still said YHWH

but people were trained to say Adonai when they read it.

This was the first step.

Then came the Greek translations the Septuagint.

Early Greek copies still kept YHWH written in Hebrew letters inside the Greek text.

But later Greek copies began replacing the Name with the Greek word:

Kyrios which means "Lord."

Now the Name was no longer just replaced in speech

it started being replaced in writing.

That was the second step.

Then came Rome.

Around AD 380, Jerome translated the Bible into Latin for the Roman Empire the Latin Vulgate.

He followed Greek copies that already used Kyrios, and he translated it into:
Dominus Lord.

This is where Roman authority language became the official church language.
Now the Name was fully removed from the church Bible.

Then came English Bibles.

Wycliffe, Tyndale, Coverdale, the King James Version all followed the Latin and Greek tradition.

So the chain became:
YHWH to Kyrios to Dominus to LORD

They used LORD in all caps to show a Name had been replaced,
but they did not restore the Name itself.

So English readers stopped seeing the Name
and only saw the title.

And this changed theology.

A personal covenant Name became a title.
A family relationship became an authority label.

Not because of conspiracy
but because translation traditions were layered for centuries.

That's why your spirit feels the difference.

Because "Lord" is not the original wording.
It is a historical substitution that slowly became normalized.

And now, many modern translations are finally beginning to restore the Divine Name again
because this history is now fully documented.

Supporting Scripture

The Name is central and covenant-based

Exodus 3:15 - The Name is given as memorial "for all generations."

Exodus 6:2-3 - The Name is revealed to the covenant fathers.

Deuteronomy 12:5 - Israel is instructed to seek the place where YAHUAH puts His Name.

Psalm 83:18 - Identifies the Most High by Name.

Joel 2:32 - "Whoever calls on the Name of YAHUAH shall be delivered."

The Name was known, proclaimed, and to be declared

Psalm 105:1 - "Call upon His Name... make known His deeds."

Isaiah 52:6 - "My people shall know My Name."

Malachi 1:11 - The Name is to be honored among the nations.

Notes

- **Covenant Name vs Title:** A Name identifies who He is; a title can be used for many.
- **Substitution:** Saying "Lord" where a Name stood is a replacement of wording, not just translation.
- **Why it matters:** In Torah, Names carry identity, authority, and relationship not just sound.