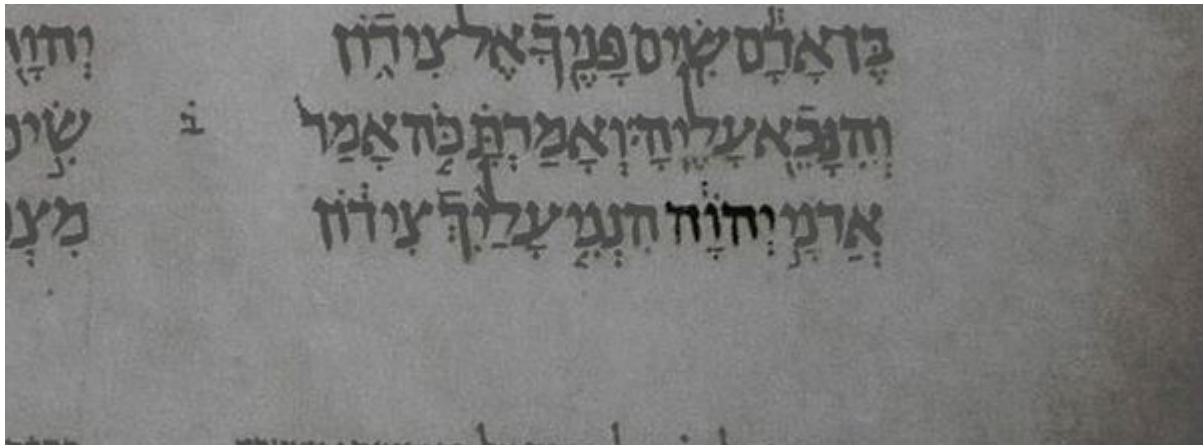


## Pronouncing the Almighty's Personal Name:

The Aleppo Codex (see photo below) and apparently at least 90 Hebrew manuscripts have the vowels for the Tetragrammaton (YHVH) as per the introduction to the Chumash - Stone Edition.



You may note in the image from the Stone Edition of the Chumash below, (preface page xiv), that the Orthodox Jews are instructed by the author to NEVER pronounce His name as it should be pronounced!

You might ask why?

**Pronouncing the Names of God**

The Four-Letter Name of *HASHEM* [יְהוָה] indicates that God is timeless and infinite, for the letters of this Name are those of the words הָיָה הוּא וְיִהְיֶה, *He was, He is, and He will be*. This name appears in some editions with vowel points [יְהוָה] and in others, such as the present edition, without vowels. In either case, this Name is never pronounced as it is spelled.

During prayer, or when a blessing is recited, or when a Torah verse is read, the Four-Letter Name should be pronounced as if it were spelled אֲדֹנָי, *ā dō nai'*, the Name that identifies God as the Master of All. At other times, it should be pronounced הַשֵּׁם, *Hashem*, literally, "the Name."

In this work, the Four-Letter Name of God is translated "*HASHEM*," the pronunciation traditionally used for the Name to avoid pronouncing it unnecessarily.

The following table gives the pronunciations of the Name when it appears with a prefix.

בְּיְהוָה	— <i>bā dō nai'</i>
הִיְהוָה	— <i>Hāā dō nāi'</i>
וְיְהוָה	— <i>vā dō nai'</i>
כִּיְהוָה	— <i>kā dō nai'</i>
לִיְהוָה	— <i>lā dō nai'</i>
מִיְהוָה	— <i>mā ā dō nai'</i>
שְׂמִיְהוָה	— <i>she ā dō nai'</i>

Sometimes the Name appears with the vowelization יְהוָה. This version of the Name is pronounced as if it were spelled אֱלֹהִים, *e lō him'*, the Name that refers to God as the One Who is all-powerful. When it appears with a prefix לִיְהוָה, it is pronounced *lā lō him'*. We have translated this Name as *HASHEM/ELOHIM* to indicate that it refers to the aspects inherent in each of those Names.

There are a great many issues with Orthodox (or Akiva) Judaism (as opposed to the true faith of Yeshua Judaism), but here I believe is a perhaps well-intentioned but mistaken and mis-guided attempt to avoid blaspheming the Name of the Almighty (some argue that this use of Adonai or HaShem, etc instead of Yehovah started as early as the return from Babylon).

As explained in the 'duolingo' article (link below) these vowels are 'shva' (pronounced 'e'), Cholam (pronounced 'o') and Kamatz (pronounced 'a'), giving the pronunciation of the Almighty's name as '**Yehovah**'.

While there are many who dispute this, having listened to Nehemia Gordon and after doing some research of my own, I am fairly persuaded.

In the linked article: "*Because of Arab influence on Hebrew, some pronounce the vav letter as a W and call it a waw.*" That's why you see the word Yahweh instead of Yahveh and the transliteration YHWH instead of YHVH.

Nehemiah Gordon's recent research (2016-2017) proves that "It's a Vav," as one of his blog posts is aptly titled.

He shares evidence from the scrolls of Jeremiah, 1 Kings and Nehemiah that vet (always a V sound) and vav are equivalent because the word for "back" (gav) is written alternatively with either letter. Check out in the Hebrew Aleppo Codex Ezekiel 23:35 ("back"/gav spelled with vav) vs Ezekiel 43:13 ("back"/gav with soft bet/vet) and 1 Kings 14:9 ("back" gav spelled with vet). Nehemiah 9:26 ("back"/gav with vav).

He also debunks the idea that Arab or Ashkenazi/Yiddish influence led to the vav being pronounced as a W universally. He lists six Jewish communities (without European influence) who nevertheless pronounced the vav as a V: Kurdish Jews, Syrian Jews, Egyptian Jews, Persian Jews, Moroccan Jews, Algerian Jews. This is in contradiction to five communities who pronounce it as a W due to Arab influence: the Yemenite Jews, Baghdadi Jews, Libyan Jews, Tunisian Jews, Atlas Mountain Jews."

I think His Name is important - at least according to the Tanakh:

Zechariah 13:9 *"... They will call on My name, and I will answer them. I will say: They are My people, and they will say: "Yehovah is our God."*

Ezekiel 39:7 *"So I will make My holy name known among My people Israel and will no longer allow it to be profaned. Then the nations will know that I am Yehovah, the Holy One in Israel."*

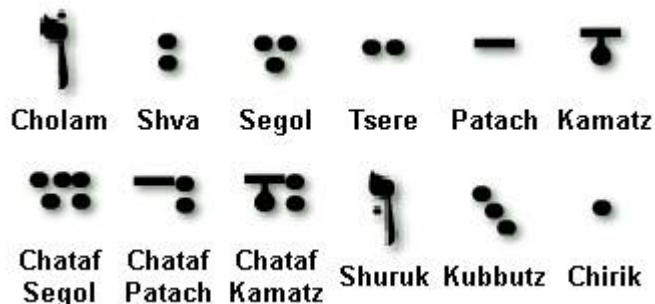
Of course, knowing Him and being obedient to Him is much more important than knowing how to properly pronounce His personal name.

**If we truly know Yeshua as Mashiach ben Yosef. we will also be obedient to his Father and ours.**

<https://escapeallthesethings.com/yahweh/>

<https://www.duolingo.com/comment/7253301/Hebrew-Time-8-The-Hebrew-Vowels>

Below is a chart showing what the vowels 'shva' (pronounced 'e'), Cholam (pronounced 'o') and Kamatz (pronounced 'a') look like:



For much more detail see this link on Nehemia Gordon's site: <https://www.nehemiaswall.com/cutting-through-confusion>