



CHRIST'S CHURCH  
OF THE CANYON

Mid-Week Devotion  
January 31, 2021

### **Tetragramma...*what??***

A "tetragrammaton" isn't a new found species of dinosaur recently discovered living in King Tut's tomb. It's not even a newly developed and just marketed video game. A tetragrammaton is a word construct. Uncle Google defines a tetragrammaton as "the four Hebrew letters usually transliterated as YHWH." No vowels, only consonants. And what does a tetragrammaton have to do with Exodus 3:14 and more importantly the Gospel of John? Let me explain. There are 7 "I AM" statements that Jesus makes found only in the Gospel of John. Probably the most well known "I AM" statement Jesus declares is, "I am the bread of life..." found in John 6:35. When Jesus uses the phrase "I AM" He is denoting what the phrase means. The I AM phrase was first used by God in Exodus 3:14 where Moses is speaking with God, it's kind of a long story, and God is asking Moses to deliver the children of Israel from the hand of Pharaoh. Moses asks God, "If the children of Israel ask on who's authority do I come, what should I say?" God responds, "You tell them that I AM has sent you." The phrase I AM is a designation or name for God which means the self-existent One. God had no beginning. He always is (poor grammar, please don't email me). God doesn't say to Moses. "Tell them I Was is sending you." Or, "I will be" is sending you. Or, "I'm trying to be" is sending you. No. It's "I AM" is sending you. Here's where the tetragrammaton makes its way into the conversation. It's YHWH. It's God's proper name. It is His most sacred name. In fact, the Jews wouldn't even say His name because it was so holy to them. YHWH equals I AM. When God tells Moses, "Tell the children of Israel I AM is sending you", He's saying tell them YHWH is sending you. It's where we get our name for God, Jehovah. Jehovah is the same as YHWH. It's the same as I AM. So, when Jesus says. "I am the bread of life" Jesus is saying, "I am Jehovah. I am YHWH. I am the self-existent One." Crazy huh? The religious leaders didn't like Him saying He was YHWH. In fact, instead of them checking His claims and doing their research on the man from Nazareth they wanted to kill Him because He said He was God. Ultimately, they did kill Him. They crucified Him. A tetragrammaton can be a pretty important word especially if it designates God Himself.

Pr. Wayne

### **Upcoming Events and Bible studies**

Men's Breakfast, Saturday, February 6, 8AM at Mount Kare, \$5 (Mexico Lindo)  
Women's Brunch, Saturday, February 6, 9AM at 26711 Raven Rd., Wrightwood  
Youth Bible study (Base Camp), ZOOM Wednesday's at 7pm

### **Questions?**

Please call the church office for more info @ 760.244.9462