

THE NAME יהוה “Yěhōwāh” in the Hebrew Bible

יהוה

(read from right to left in Hebrew) the name
equals

HWHY or HVHY

HWHJ or HVHJ.

When read left to right in English the letters equal

JHWH or YHWH

JHWH or JHVH

and YAHWEH

was probably the original pronunciation.

Jehovah was a hybrid name composed of the
consonants

JHWH or JHVH

and the vowels of

יהוה^א *ādōnay*,

which means “my Lords” (an honorific
plural form).

The *ā--ô--a* vowels of *ādōnay*

shift to *ě--ô--a* because the name begins with a

י (yod = y as in *yhwh*) instead of א (*aleph* in
ādōnay)

The *ě-ô-a* vowels (of *ādōnay*) added to JHVH
produced the hybrid Jehovah.

The tetragrammaton יהוה (YHWH) is composed of
a 3rd person masculine prefix י (yod = y), meaning
"he" attached to the verbal stem יה (HWH), which
is the archaic spelling of the verb יהי (HYH)
meaning "to become, to be, to happen." The name if
vocalized in the simple form as **YIHWEH** would
mean "he will become" or "he will be" and would
correspond to 1st person statement "I am who I am"
in Exodus 3:14. But the last syllable **YAH** of the
fixed liturgical phrase **halleluyah** "Praise Yahweh!"
indicates that the initial vowel of YHWH was **YA**,
not **YI**.

Therefore, (*YAHWEH* as opposed to *YIHWEH*) would be the causative form of the verb meaning "He will cause to be" or "he will create." Consequently Exodus 3:14 would mean "I cause to be what I cause to be" or "I create what I create," This may be the basis for the affirmation in Sirach 39:18, "At his command whatever pleases him is done, and none can limit his saving power."
