

EL ELYON (MOST HIGH)*

This name for God positions Him far above all others in rank and power. His “high-ness” inspires awe.

SCRIPTURE†	MUSIC‡
(Strong’s H5945 / 53 occurrences) Genesis 14:18-24 Psalm 9:1–10 / 2 Psalm 18:6–19 / 13 Psalm 21 / 7 Psalm 46 / 4 Psalm 47 / 47:1–9 (2) Psalm 57:2 Psalm 78:17, 35, 56 Psalm 91 / 1, 9 Psalm 97:9 Isaiah 6:1–4	Behold Our God Bow the Knee Come, Thou Almighty King Glorious, Indescribable (Berry) SATB Great Is Our God (Courtney) SATB How Majestic Is Thy Name I Sing the Mighty Power of God Immortal, Invisible Lord, Most Holy (Hayes) SATB O God Beyond All Praising O God, My Joy O Great God O Most High! (Man) SATB O Worship the King Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Rejoice, the Lord Is King Worthy of Worship



* Theme fits in **Hebrew [Names for God]** series, usually on the off-year from the **Jehovah** series.

† Daily preparatory readings shown in **bold**.

‡ Published choral and vocal music shown in **bold**.

PRESENTING & PROMOTING THIS THEME

NATURE'S MAGNITUDE

Use an illustration from nature, such as a hike at the Grand Canyon or during the Idaho backpacking trip, as something that exceeds the limits of our understanding. God's character is even more incomprehensible to us. The narrative of the entire Bible emphasizes that God is above. We call this aspect of His nature His transcendence, and the name El Elyon is related to it. There is no way to capture His essence because He is high, above all else, like nothing else – so we are commanded to make no graven images. The builders of the Tower of Babel aspired to reach to heaven with their tower; God showed them how impossible this was by coming down to them and confusing their languages. We can be tempted to forget God's transcendence when we try to make him too much like us. God is too much for us to take in; He is overwhelmingly complex, the Most High God.

Promotional Post: [Social media post]

[Insert preparatory Scripture readings.]

THE CHAIN OF COMMAND

El Elyon means "God most High." This is not referring so much to direction (up) as to position of authority (the top). In the military, everyone has a boss. Privates answer to the sergeant, who answers to the lieutenant, then captain, major, colonel, general and so on, even up to the president, who answers to the people. But everyone answers to God; the chain of command stops with Him. There is no one outside His authority.

Promotional Post: Are you part of an organizational chart? Where do you fit? Everyone answers to someone higher up. Everyone except God; He's at the top. That's part of the meaning of the Hebrew name for God, El Elyon—"God Most High." Join us to worship Him this Sunday, using these passages to prepare yourself: [Insert Scripture readings.]



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