



# Life, security and belonging in joyful adoration, from the hand of God

## A discovery on the Biblical Name of God in old Semitic

by André H. Roosma, 26 Jan. 2011




updated: 2012-11-16

What comes to your mind when you see these pictures:  or ?

Someone who is depressed? No, much more I think of someone who kneels in worship and/or who stands jubilating with joy...





A part of my time I am digging into the Hebrew of the First Testament of the Bible. Those who know me, or who read some of my writings regularly, will recognize this.<sup>1</sup> I do so in dependence on God and let myself be led by His Word and His Spirit. Some time ago He had brought me in contact with what can be seen as the oldest Hebrew script – linguists call it (West-)Semitic or Canaanite. That language was written with small pictures.<sup>2</sup> I was already enthusiastic about this old Semitic, because from these pictures the original meanings of many Hebrew words are immediately clear. Now God showed me something really wonderful, which made me even more enthusiastic – *Hallelu- YaH!*

For, do you know what the three little pictures are, that constitute the old Hebrew verb root *hawah* for ‘to be’ or ‘to live’? (This is also the word that is closely connected to the glorious Name of God in the First Testament.) I will draw it for you here:

   – people who raise their hands in joyful wonder and adoration (in worship towards God), and in between them a tent pin – in those days the symbol for security, belonging and connection/attachment. The symbol of the tent pin in between the people, reminds me also of how the God of Israel came to live in between His people, in the Tabernacle and even more Personally in Jesus (cf. John 1: 14; Revelation 21:3).


Full life and ‘being’ is that in wonder about God, and about what He does, we may rejoice and worship Him. He then provides joy, security and belonging in community.


Indeed: He gives it; His glorious Name (יהוה) in modern ‘Hebrew’ is, in this script:

    – the most right (first; they read from right to left) symbol is a *hand*; so He is the God Who *hands* us that ‘being’, that ‘full life’, as just described: in joyful adoration and secure attachment. He *has a hand* in it; He *takes action* to let us *live* that way in joyful fellowship.

I am impressed. So simple. So direct. So clear...

Then nothing remains but to worship that wonderful God...

<sup>1</sup> See a.o. my extensive study on Who God is, His glorious Name and the promise given in His Name: that He wants to be *with* us: [The magnificent and most lovely Name of the God Who was there, Who is there and Who will be there](#) .

<sup>2</sup> See e.g. [The Written Language of Abraham, Moses and David – A study of the pictographic roots and basic notions in the underlying fabric of the earliest Biblical script](#) , *Hallelu-YaH* Draft Working Document, Jan/Apr 2011.

Later (around the time of the Judges or the first Kings; roughly 11 till 8 centuries before Christ) the old Semitic signs evolved into the Paleo-Hebrew characters. The current ‘Hebrew’ square script was adopted from Aramaic during or after the time of the Babylonian exile.

*Thanks for your interest!*