

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 1 of 22

Today's message is a continuation of the one begun on our previous broadcast. This transcript contains the entire message from both programs. The text of today's broadcast begins on page 9.

One of the most interesting studies that a student of the Bible can undertake is the study of names in the Bible. The names of people, and places, and things that we find in the Bible are not merely labels. They serve a purpose. They serve a function. This is especially the case in the Old Testament. Names that we find in the Old Testament not only identify people and places and things for us, they also tell us something about that person, or place, or thing.

For example, Genesis chapter three, verse twenty tells us that "Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living." The name "Eve" means "life" or "living." Eve's own name is an argument against the ungodly theory of evolution. Evolutionists say that different races of human beings are probably descended from different ape-like ancestors in different parts of the world.

But God's Word tells us, through Eve's own name, that she is "the mother of *all* living" – the woman who is the first female ancestor of *all* humanity – and she is the special creation of God, not some being whose ancestors rose out of some

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 2 of 22

primordial slime. So in Eve's case, as in so many others that follow in the pages of Scripture, a person's name has significance.

The names of places also have significance in Scripture. We find the first instance of this in Genesis chapter eleven. When human beings after the flood attempted to exalt themselves above God, the record tells us that God confused their languages so that they could not understand each other, and so they had to stop building the great tower to the heavens and the great city they were building, and the people were scattered over the earth.

And so we read in Genesis chapter eleven, verse nine that the name of the place was called *Babel* – which means, literally, confusion – “because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth” and caused the human population to be scattered over the earth. And so the names of places in Scripture also have significance.

The names of things likewise often have significance in Scripture. We find an example of this in Genesis chapter thirty-three. Jacob, had returned to the land of Canaan, the land of his birth, after spending many years with his father-in-law Laban. And when Jacob came back into the Promised Land, Genesis chapter thirty-three, verse twenty tells us that “he erected an altar there and called it ‘*Elohe Israel*’ ” which means, “God, the mighty God of Israel.”

Jacob had come back into the midst of pagan peoples who lived in the land of Canaan at that time. They had many altars to many gods. Jacob wanted it to be

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 3 of 22

known that the altar he erected was not an altar to any of their false gods. Jacob's altar was an altar to the one true and living God, the mighty God who had met with him and protected him over many years. And so he named the altar, *El Elohe Israel* – God, the mighty God of Israel.

So the names of people, places, and things in Scripture have significance. And what is true of earthly people, places, and things in Scripture is even more significant as we look at the names that God Himself has given to us to describe Himself in Scripture. Throughout both the Old and New Testaments, God reveals Himself through His names.

The singular focus of the New Testament is on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Gabriel told Joseph, "You shall call His name *Jesus*" – meaning Jehovah is Salvation – "because He shall save His people from their sins." And the genealogy that we find in Matthew chapter one tells us that Mary was the mother of "Jesus who is called '*Christ*'" – the anointed one, the Messiah, the Son of God. "Jesus" is the name at which every knee shall one day bow. Every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. The name of Jesus is the focus of the New Testament.

But in the Old Testament the names of God are manifold, and the meanings of God's names in the Old Testament reveal God to us in many different ways. By His names, we understand who God is, how God operates, how God governs, how

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 4 of 22

God deals with individuals and nations, how God deals with believers and unbelievers.

The Origin of the Name

Today I want to call your attention to one particular name of God that we find in the Old Testament, and that name is *El Shaddai*, which means "God Almighty." First, let me say a few words about the name itself. The name *Shaddai* or Almighty appears fifty-two times in the Old Testament. Each time it refers to God. And the compound name *El Shaddai*, "God Almighty," appears seven times.

In the past two hundred years, unbelieving scholars have tried to make a case for another meaning of *El Shaddai*, one that has its roots in the false idea that the Old Testament is not the inspired Word of God but merely a collection of earlier pagan myths assembled and retold by later men. But the long-standing position of believing scholars, going back many centuries, is that the origin of the name *El Shaddai* is, literally, "God of the mountain." God who possesses overwhelming strength, God who is completely unmovable and unchangeable, God Almighty, who is supremely powerful.

And this is the meaning of the name that fits the context of the fifty-two places where it is used in the Bible. The other meaning, this pagan name, this invention of the unbelieving higher critics, simply does not fit the facts. It does not fit the context.

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 5 of 22

And so it is easy to see who is right and who is wrong. It is easy to see who has a Biblical view of the nature of God, and who has a perverted and even feministic view of the nature of God. The problem is that today many even in the Evangelical church are not being as careful as they should be about these things. Many Evangelicals are listening to the unbelieving scholars in matters like this. But dear friends, we must reject such thinking. Unbelieving scholars by the very nature of the case usually have a very anti-Biblical agenda, and so Bible believing Christians must view their claims about archaeology and the ancient languages and the supposed origins of the Old Testament with great skepticism.

El Shaddai is the God of the mountain. God Almighty. The God of infinite strength. The God whose person and purposes stand forever. God the most powerful.

The first time we find this particular name of God is in the passage we are going to come to in a few moments, in Genesis chapter seventeen. We find in Genesis seventeen that God comes before Abraham, for the third time in a span of twenty-four years, to declare His covenant promises to Abraham.

But before we come to Genesis chapter seventeen, it will be helpful for us to look at the things that have brought Abraham to this particular occasion. And so I want to briefly call your attention to the two previous occasions on which God has declared His promises to Abraham.

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 6 of 22

“Get Up and Go”

The first of these is in Genesis chapter twelve. Please open your Bibles with me, if you are able, to Genesis chapter twelve, beginning at verse one. Here we find God appearing to Abraham, who at this point is still called by his given name, Abram, for the first time. Genesis chapter twelve, verse one –

Now the Lord had said to Abram: “Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram departed as the Lord had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan. Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites were then in the land.

Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your descendants I will give this land.” And there he built an altar to the Lord, who had

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 7 of 22

appeared to him. And he moved from there to the mountain east of Bethel, and he pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord. So Abram journeyed, going on still toward the South. (Genesis 12:1-9)

And so here we have the first statement of God's promise. God tells Abram, Get out of your native country. Get up and go to a land that I am going to show you. I am going to give you that land. I am going to give you descendants. I am going to make you a great nation. I am going to bless you as no one else has ever been blessed. And I am going to bless all the nations of the earth through you.

And so Abraham believed God. Abraham obeyed God. Now keep in mind, as we are told here, that Abraham is not a young man. He is 75 years old – and childless – when he sets out on this journey.

"I Am Your Shield"

Now turn over with me, please, just a page or two, to Genesis chapter fifteen. Genesis chapter fifteen, verse one. Here is the scene: We read in chapter fourteen, just before this, that Abraham has just returned from his battle with four kings, and Abraham has rescued his nephew Lot and his family from captivity. Abraham has had his encounter with Melchizedek the King of Salem. Abraham has been in the land of promise now for about ten years at this point. And so God now appears to Abraham a second time to confirm His promise. Genesis chapter fifteen, verse one:

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 8 of 22

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, saying, "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward."

But Abram said, "Lord God, what will You give me, seeing I go childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" Then Abram said, "Look, You have given me no offspring; indeed one born in my house is my heir!"

And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "This one shall not be your heir, but one who will come from your own body shall be your heir." Then He brought him outside and said, "Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them." And He said to him, "So shall your descendants be."

And he [Abram] believed in the Lord, and He [the Lord] accounted it to him for righteousness. Then He said to him, "I am the Lord, who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to inherit it." (Genesis 15:1-7)

And so once again, God has repeated His promises. And God has stated some important aspects of His promise more specifically and more emphatically than He did the first time, ten years ago: God says to Abram, One who will come from your own body will be your heir. Your descendants are going to be beyond the ability of man to number, Abram. And remember, I am the One who brought you

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 9 of 22

here. I brought you to this land. You are going to inherit this land. And God says to Abram, Do not be afraid. I am your shield. I am your exceedingly great reward – I myself.

“I Am El Shaddai”

And so now with these things in mind, please turn over with me, just another page or two, to Genesis chapter seventeen, verse one. And as you are finding your place there, let me set the scene for you once again.

[STARTING POINT OF SECOND BROADCAST] Twenty-four years have now passed since God first made His promises to Abraham in Genesis chapter twelve. Fourteen years have now passed since God appeared to Abraham a second time to confirm His promises in Genesis chapter fifteen.

And twenty-four years after God’s original promise, fourteen years after God’s confirmation of that promise, as we come to Genesis chapter seventeen, verse one, here sits Abraham. He still possesses no land. And he still has no son.

Abraham is a man of great wealth, but he doesn’t own a single square foot of the land God has promised to him.

And what about the promised son? Abraham has tried to make his own way. In the time since God last appeared, Abraham has fathered Ishmael with Sarah’s handmaid. But God is about to make it clear that Ishmael is not the son that God

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 10 of 22

has promised. Please read with me, if you are able – Genesis chapter seventeen, beginning at verse one –

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am Almighty God [in the Hebrew, *El Shaddai*]; walk before Me and be blameless. And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly."

Then Abram fell on his face, and God talked with him, saying: "As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

"And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your descendants after you in their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God."
(Genesis 17:1-8)

And then, notice verse fifteen:

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 11 of 22

Then God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. And I will bless her and also give you a son by her; then I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of peoples shall be from her."

Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said in his heart, "Shall a child be born to a man who is one hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" And Abraham said to God, "Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!"

Then God said: "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation.

"But My covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year." (Genesis 17:15-21)

Here are Abraham and Sarah, in their old age. As the writer to the Hebrews tells us in chapter eleven, Abraham is "as good as dead" as far as having children is concerned.

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 12 of 22

But that is no obstacle to God. "I am God Almighty!" I am *El Shaddai*! I am the One who is able to do anything, at any time, in any way. I am not bound by time. I am not bound by My creation. I am not bound by the normal workings of the natural order I have established. I am God Almighty! I am *El Shaddai*! I can do anything, but I cannot fail. I will not fail.

God in effect is saying to Abraham, You may think that I have failed. You may think you have come to the end of the line. You may think that the promise has not been fulfilled and cannot now be fulfilled. You may think that the last chapter has been written.

But think again, Abraham. I, *El Shaddai* – I, God Almighty – have only begun to work. I have only begun to do. You are about to see, Abraham, not the end, the beginning! You may be in the last phase of your life on earth, Abraham. But thousands of years of My plan lie ahead! Hundreds of generations of My people are still in the future! Through you all the nations of the earth are going to be blessed, because through you, Abraham, will come the One who will redeem a people for Himself – a people who will call you, Abraham, their father in the faith! I am God Almighty! I am *El Shaddai*.

And here we are dear friends, four thousand years later, all of us who are in Christ – we are the spiritual descendants of Abraham. We are living proof that *El Shaddai* is faithful to every one of His promises.

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 13 of 22

And across the seas tonight there is a people, ethnic Israel, once again in the land – physical descendants of Abraham. And according to the sure promise of *El Shaddai*, Romans chapter eleven, after the fullness of the Gentiles has come in, there will be a great ingathering of ethnic Jews into the kingdom of God through faith in Jesus Christ. Their time is coming. [ENDING POINT OF FIRST BROADCAST]

God Is Still *El Shaddai*

God Almighty is the God of "I will." Twelve times in Genesis chapter 17, God says to Abraham, "I will." And God could say all those "I wills" because God is, first of all, who He said He was: I am God Almighty! I am *El Shaddai*.

And the same *El Shaddai* who said to Abraham, "I will – I will – I will – I will – I will" in the Old Testament – He is the same God Almighty, the same *El Shaddai*, who says "I will" in the New Testament –

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me *I will* by no means cast out. (John 6:37)

No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and *I will* raise him up at the last day. (John 6:44)

And if I go and prepare a place for you, *I will* come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (John 14:3)

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 14 of 22

“It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. *I will* give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and *I will* be his God and he shall be My son. (Revelation 21:6-7)

God Almighty is the God of “I will.” Not one detail of His plan will go unfulfilled, because *El Shaddai* keeps all His promises.

Now you may be saying, Yes, I know that these things are true. I know the big picture. But I am struggling with the day-to-day. I am struggling with life in this present world.

Let me take this opportunity to remind you that all of the things that you are experiencing in life in this world, are part of the big picture. They are all the details and the outworking of the plan of God Almighty, of *El Shaddai*. And just as God did in the Old Testament, God today reveals Himself in His various aspects – in His various names, if you will – He reveals Himself to each of us in those ways individually, according to His plan, and according to our need at the time. We see this in the life of Abraham.

When Abraham came back from the war with the four kings, God reminded Him, Genesis chapter fifteen, that He, God, was his shield. Abraham had led his forces in a great military victory, but God was the Author of that victory. In that war Abraham recovered all of his goods, and all of his family, and he took no

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 15 of 22

reward from the hand of man. But God reminded Abraham that He, God, was His exceedingly great reward, beyond any earthly treasure or blessing.

And years later, when Abraham thought that God's promises were beyond fulfillment, the Lord came to him and said, "I am *El Shaddai*. I am God Almighty." I will do it. And now, Abraham, I am ready to do it. It is going to be miraculous. I will keep every one of My great and precious promises to you.

At one point in Abraham's life, at a time of fear, it was vital for God to reveal Himself to him as his shield, and as his great reward. But at a later point, when years had passed and doubts had grown and despair had set in, it was vital for the Lord in His plan and purpose to remind Abraham that his God was *El Shaddai*, God Almighty.

Perhaps you are wondering about the plan and promises of God. Perhaps you are in doubt. Perhaps you say, "I wish I could trust God the way Abraham did." Or, "I wish I could trust God the way this person or that person seems to trust God."

Dear friends, there were many times when Abraham failed to trust God. He failed to trust God when he went into Egypt. He failed to trust God when he went into the land of Gerar. On both of those occasions, he lied about his relationship to Sarah because he didn't trust in the protection of God. In fact Abraham's lies put Sarah in greater danger than she would have been if he had told the truth. But God did the protecting, not Abraham.

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 16 of 22

And Abraham failed to trust God when he took matters into his own hands and fathered Ishmael. But none of Abraham's failures stopped God from being faithful to His promises. Abraham's failures did not change God. Abraham's failures did not stop God from being *El Shaddai*.

And what was the end of the history of Abraham? We find it in Hebrews chapter eleven, beginning at verse eight. We read this –

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born as many as the stars of the sky in multitude — innumerable as the sand which is by the seashore. (Hebrews 11:8-12)

And then, verse seventeen of Hebrews chapter eleven –

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 17 of 22

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, "In Isaac your seed shall be called," concluding that God [God Almighty – *El Shaddai*] was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense. (Hebrews 11:17-19)

Dear friends, we need to listen to the Word of God Almighty, the Word of *El Shaddai*. In Deuteronomy chapter eleven, God said this to the children of Israel, beginning at verse eighteen –

"[Y]ou shall lay up these words of Mine in your heart and in your soul...And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give them, like the days of the heavens above the earth. (Deuteronomy 11:18-21)

Many of the children of Israel actually did this. They attached what they called a *Mezzuzah* to the doorposts of their houses. The *Mezzuzah* was a small container that held a scroll of parchment on which particular passages of Scripture were written.

This container that they placed on their doorposts had a small hole or window near the top. And the scroll of parchment that was inside the container was placed in this case, in the *Mezzuzah*, so that whenever anyone entered that house, they would see a single word on the scroll inside, through that window. And that word

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 18 of 22

was the name *Shaddai* – Almighty. A constant reminder that God is God Almighty.

Dear friend, put that name on the doorpost of your heart. When you doubt the promises of God, and we all have times of doubt, remember that one word – Almighty. *Shaddai*. God Almighty is the God of "I will." He keeps His Word.

Worship the God who keeps His Word, dear friend. Bow your heart before Him. Remember the words of David in Psalm 138, verse two:

I will worship toward Your holy temple, and praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; [notice what comes next –] for You have magnified Your Word above all Your name. In the day when I cried out, You answered me, and made me bold with strength in my soul. (Psalm 138:2-3)

God has exalted His Word, His promises, even above His own name, dear friend. *El Shaddai* will not fail you.

Perhaps you have doubts about your salvation. Dear friend, if you have times when you doubt your salvation, remember that one word – Almighty, *Shaddai*. Hebrews chapter seven, verse twenty-five tells you that God Almighty is the God who is able to save and to keep to the uttermost – to the very end – every individual who comes to God through Christ.

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 19 of 22

And Hebrews 7:25 tells you *why* God is able to save you and to keep you to the very end. It is because God the Son, Jesus Christ, who is Himself God Almighty, “ever lives to make intercession” for you. If you are a believer on the Lord Jesus Christ, if you are trusting in His shed blood alone as the payment for your salvation, then the God who died for you now “ever lives to make intercession” for you. God the Son prays to His Father for do, dear Christian, and God the Father – God Almighty, *El Shaddai* – will never deny the prayer of His only begotten Son.

Dear Christian friend, perhaps you have times when you regret the past. Perhaps you regret past sins you have committed, times when you have acted in disobedience to God. Perhaps you regret things you have not done in the past – things you have failed to do as a Christian that you know are God’s will for you to do, according to His Word. Well dear friend, in those times of regret, once again I encourage you to remember that great name of God – God Almighty, *El Shaddai*.

God Almighty is the God who says this, Hebrews chapter eight, verse twelve: “I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities I will remember no more.” Remember also the words of David in Psalm 130 – David, who committed such a great sin against the Lord but who bowed his face before God in repentance. David said:

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: who forgives all your iniquities...

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 20 of 22

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust. (Psalm 103:1-3, 11-14)

Dear Christian friend, perhaps you are wrestling with the present. Perhaps you are dealing with trials that seem unbearable to you at this time. Perhaps you are experiencing a trying illness. Perhaps you are experiencing great heaviness or depression in your spirit. Perhaps you are troubled and discouraged by the attacks of Satan. Perhaps you are feeling the weight of unrepented sin.

Dear Christian friend, once again I encourage you to remember that great name – God Almighty, *El Shaddai*. God Almighty is the God who is with you in everything you are going through. God Almighty who is ready to hear every petition you bring before His throne of grace in prayer. God Almighty who, when you confess your sins, is faithful and just to forgive your sins, and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). God Almighty, who has promised, "I will never leave you or forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5).

Or perhaps, dear Christian friend, you fear the future. Once again, remember that great name – God Almighty, *El Shaddai*. God Almighty is the God who knows the end from the beginning. Nothing can separate you from the love of God

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 21 of 22

in Christ, ever. And God Almighty works all things together for good to those who love Him, who are the called according to His purpose (Romans 8:28).

Let me call your attention to one final passage of Scripture, Psalm 91. Please turn there with me if you are able. Psalm 91, beginning at verse one. I'm not going to comment, I simply ask you to listen to the Word of God –

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty [*El Shaddai*].

I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

This, dear believer in Christ, is the place of refuge, comfort, encouragement, and strength for every believer in Christ. The promises of the saving, sustaining, and protecting God who is *El Shaddai*. May the Lord teach each of us, more and more, to rest in God Almighty.

But perhaps you are listening today, and God has shown you that as yet you have no part in these great assurances. You have, as yet, no part in these great promises. Perhaps God has shown you that you have never bowed your heart in repentance from sin, and in faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ as your only redeemer from sin.

If you are in that situation today, I implore you, in the name of Christ, to call upon the name of the Lord and be saved from your sin. And then, dear friend, you

Series: *Names of God*

Title: "The Grand Plan of *El Shaddai*" (Genesis 17:1, Psalm 91:1-2)

Speaker: Dr. Paul M. Elliott

Original Air Date: Week of 11/4/2012

Page 22 of 22

will have a right to a share in the great and eternal promises that are sure for every believer in Christ, because they are guaranteed by the shed blood of Jesus Christ, God Almighty, *El Shaddai*.

About the Broadcast

The Scripture-Driven Church airs each week across the United States and around the world. Our goal is that of the Great Commission: to preach the Gospel to the world, and to equip believers to stand upon and live by the sole authority of God's Word, to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

How You Can Help Us

Above all, please pray for us. The prayers of our listeners and supporters are vital to all we do. We thank you for bringing this ministry before the throne of grace.

The broadcast is supported entirely by the gifts of God's people. If the Lord leads you to help us financially, you can:

- Call us toll-free at 888-804-9655 to give a gift by credit card
- Give a gift online at our secure website, www.teachingtheword.org
- Mail your gift to TeachingTheWord, Box 2533, Westminster, Maryland 21158

TeachingtheWord Ministries is recognized as a tax-exempt religious organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U. S. Internal Revenue Code.

**May the Lord richly bless your personal study
of His inspired, infallible, inerrant Word.**