In Hebrew the name of God is spelled YHWH. Since ancient Hebrew had no written vowels, it is uncertain how the name was pronounced originally, but there are records of the name in Greek, which did have written vowels. These records indicate that in all likelihood the name should be pronounced "Yahweh."

Shortly before the first century A.D., it became common for Jews to avoid saying the divine name for fear of misusing it, and breaking the second commandment ("You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain," Deut. 5:11). Whenever they read scripture aloud and encountered the divine name, they substituted another Hebrew word, "Adonai" (which means "Lord" or "my Lord") in its place.

Eventually, Hebrew developed written vowels, which appeared as small marks called vowel points and were placed above and below the consonants of a word. In the sixth or seventh century, some Jews began to place the vowel points for "Adonai" over the consonants for "Yahweh" to remind the reader of scripture to say "Adonai" whenever he read "Yahweh."

About the 13th century, the term "Jehovah" appeared when Christian scholars took the consonants of "Yahweh" and pronounced it with the vowels of "Adonai." This resulted in the sound "Yahowah," which has a Latinized spelling of "Jehovah." The first recorded use of this spelling was made by a Spanish Dominican monk, Raymundus Martini, in 1270.

1. The personal name of Jehovah is JHWH
2. Jehovah is the personal name of each member of the Trinity in contrast to Elohim (which refers to all members of the Trinity). Jehovah is singular – while Elohim is plural. Jehovah
always refers to one person in the Godhead. Elohim is the name of God from the view of essence/attributes.

3. Jehovah is a singular name and refers to a specific person in the Trinity. Without vowels, Jehovah was JHWH.

4. Those letters are called a tetragrammaton – The name representing God in the Hebrew written without vowels. 4 letters JHWH.

5. Note various words with that root:
   1) Tetrabasic – a chemical containing 4 basic atoms
   2) Tetrachord – a music word – a diatonic series of 4 tones
   3) In geometry – a tetragon is a plane figure having 4 angles
   4) In drama – a tetralogy means a series of 4 related dramas
   5) A tetragram is a word having 4 letters.

6. When this noman (name) tetragrammaton appeared, the Jews refused to pronounce it, and instead used the word ADONAI which means “LORD.” The Jews took the vowels (e o a); they shortened the first vowel and it became an “A” – then placed in the “e” – then took the last vowel and lengthened it “na” – this ANONA or ADONAI.

7. When the Jews translated the Septuagint (Greek translation of the Old Testament), they used the word “Kurios” to translate “Adonai.”