

## Exodus 20:2

אֲנֹכִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִיךָ מֵאֶרֶץ  
מִצְרַיִם מִבֵּית עֲבָדִים:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. (RSV)

**אֲנֹכִי (ah-no-khee)**

This is the first person pronoun - I.

**יְהוָה (Yahweh)**

The name of God commonly pronounced as Yahweh but always represented by "LORD" in most English Bibles.

**אֱלֹהֶיךָ (eh-lo-hey-kha)**

The base word is אֱלֹהִים (elo'ah) meaning "One of power or Authority" and usually translated as "God." The suffix ךָ (kha) is the second person pronoun you and is connected to the first word in the possessive case "God of you" but translated as "your God." The base word also has the suffix ים (iyim) indicating a plural noun, אֱלֹהִים. Whenever a plural noun is used in the possessive case such as we have here, the ם (M) is dropped.

**אֲשֶׁר (ah-sheer)**

A common Hebrew word meaning "which" or "who."

**הוֹצֵאתִיךָ (ho-tsey-tiy-kha)**

The base word is the verb יָצָא - "go out." The prefix הַ (h) identifies the verb as a hiphil verb or "causative" verb - "to make go out." Whenever a Hebrew word begins with the letter י (y) and is prefixed by another letter such as the הַ (h) in this word, the י (y) is changed to a ו (o). Suffixed to the word is תִּי (tiy) indicating the subject of the verb is first person imperfect tense - "I will make go out." Also suffixed to the word is ךָ (kha) identifying the object of the verb as second person - "I will make you go out."

**מֵאֶרֶץ (mey-eh-rets)**

The base word is אֶרֶץ (erets) meaning "land" and is prefixed by מִ (m) meaning "from." Combined these mean "from the land."

**מִצְרַיִם (meets-rah-yeem)**

Miytsrayim was the son of Hham, the son of Noah. Miytsrayim is also the Biblical name for the land of "Egypt."

**מִבֵּית (mee-beyt)**

The base word is בית (beyt) meaning "house" and is prefixed by מ (m) meaning "from." Combined these mean "from the house."

**עֲבָדִים (ah-vah-deem)**

A plural word meaning "servitude" or "bondage."

Note: The phrase "from the land of mitsrayim" and "from the house of bondage" are parallels, a common form of Hebrew poetry.