

**Israel ("striver with God")** - a member of the [Hayyoth](#) who is ranked sixth among the fifteen angels of the throne. Or, as he says in his own words, "I am Israel the [Archangel](#) of the power of the Lord and the chief tribune among the [sons of God](#)." In another passage he claims to be the angel [Uriel](#) and Philo identifies him with the [Logos](#). According to the ancient mystics from the geonic period (seventh through eleventh centuries) say that Israel's job is to "call the hosts of angels to chant God's praise."

<http://hafapea.com/angelpages/angels3.html#F>

**Israel** ("striver with God")—an angel of the order of hayyoth, a distinguished class of angels surrounding God's throne and to be compared with the cherubim and seraphim. In *The Book of the Angel Raziel*, Israel is ranked 6th of the throne angels. In the *Prayer of Joseph*, an Alexandrian gnostic apocryphon, commented on by Origen and Eusebius, there occurs this passage: "He who speaks to you, I, Jacob and Israel, am an angel of God and a principal (archikon) spirit." And elsewhere in the same: "I am Israel the archangel of the power of the Lord and the chief tribune among the sons of God." Further along, Jacob-Israel identifies himself as the angel Uriel. In this apocryphon, the patriarch Jacob is an archangel (angelic name: Israel) who has entered earthly life from a pre-existent state. [Rf. introd. *3 Enoch*.] The mystics of the geonic period (7th–11th centuries) speak of a heavenly being named Israel; the function of this angel is to "call the hosts of angels to chant God's praise." He addresses them with these words: "Bless ye the Lord who is to be blessed." Philo identifies Israel with the Logos. In Ginzberg, *The Legends of the Jews* V, 307, Israel is designated "Jacob's countenance in the throne of Glory." [Rf. *Hekaloth*, 4:29; *The Book of the Angel Raziel*, 6b.]

Gustav Davidson. *A Dictionary of Angels: Including the Fallen Angels*. New York: The Free Press. 1967.  
Page 151.

# Israel (name)

Israel	
<b>Pronunciation</b>	"Iz-Rael"
<b>Gender</b>	Male
Origin	
<b>Word/Name</b>	Hebrew
<b>Meaning</b>	Israeli
Other names	
<b>Related names</b>	Izzy, Isaac, Rae, Joseph, Jacob, Jesus

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**Israel** is a Biblical given name. The patriarch Jacob was given the name *Israel* (Hebrew: **יִשְׂרָאֵל**, Standard *Yisra'el* Tiberian *Yiśrā'ēl*; "Triumphant with God", "who prevails with God"<sup>[1]</sup>) after he wrestled with the angel (Genesis 32:28 <sup>[2]</sup> and 35:10) The name already occurs in Eblaite and Ugaritic texts as a common name.<sup>[3]</sup> Commentators differ on the original literal meaning. Some say the name comes from the verb *śarar* ("to rule, be strong, have authority over"), thereby making the name mean "God rules" or "God judges". Other possible meanings include "the prince of God" (from the King James Version) or "El fights/struggles". "The Jewish Study Bible" of Oxford University Press says on page 68 "The scientific etymology of *Israel* is uncertain, a good guess being '[The God] El rules.'"<sup>[4]</sup> Jacob's descendants came to be known as the Israelites, eventually forming the tribes of Israel and ultimately the kingdom of Israel, whence came the name of modern day Israel.

In Israel, the name "Israel Israeli" is sometimes used to mean someone whose name is unknown or unspecified.

Israel was a common name among Assyrians till recent times. A famous Assyrian author is the Chaldean bishop Israel Audo, famous for authoring a book about the Assyrian Genocide.

## Given name

- Israel (Bishop of Caucasian Albania), 7th century CE
- Israel Alter (also: Yisra'el Alter, 1901-1979), Jewish composer and last chief cantor in Hanover, Germany
- Israel Asper (1932–2003), Canadian media magnate
- Israel of Axum, Emperor of Ethiopia in the 6th century CE
- Israel Baline (1888–1989), the birth name of American composer Irving Berlin
- Israel Cruz (born 1983), Australian singer
- Israel Dagg (born 1988), New Zealand rugby player
- Israel ben Eliezer (1698–1760), Jewish mystical rabbi
- Israel Folau (born 1989), Australian rugby league player
- Israel Gelfand (1913–2009), Russian mathematician
- Israel Gigato (born 1987), Spanish football player
- Israel the Grammarian, 10th century European scholar
- Israel Hands, 18th Century pirate

- Israel Houghton (born 1971), American singer and Christian worship leader
- Israel Idonije (born 1980), Nigeria-born Canadian player of American football
- Israel Kamakawiwoʻole (1959–1997), Hawaiian singer
- Israel Kirzner (born 1930), American economist
- Israel of Krems, 14th-15th century Austrian rabbi
- Israel "Izzy" Lang, American football running back
- Israel Machado (born 1960), Brazilian basketball player
- Israel Ochoa (born 1964), Colombian cyclist
- Israel Putnam (1718–1790), American general
- Israel Regardie (1907–1985), British occultist
- Israel B. Richardson (1815–1862), Union major general in the American Civil War
- Israel Shahak (1933–2001), Israeli author
- Israel Shamir (born 1947), Swedish anti-Zionist writer
- Israel Vázquez (born 1977), Mexican boxer
- Yisrael Meir Lau (born 1937), Orthodox Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel
- Israel Preker (born 1948), Chief editor of the Israeli wine web site <http://www.wines-srael.com>

## Surname

- Al Israel, American actor
- Dan Israel, American musician
- Edward Israel (1859–1884), American astronomer and polar explorer
- Elizabeth Israel (1875–2003), Dominican supercentenarian
- Jonathan Israel (born 1946), British historian
- Märt Israel (born 1983), Estonian discus thrower
- Menasseh ben Israel (1604–1657), Portuguese rabbi and scholar
- Rinus Israëel (born 1942), Dutch football player and manager
- Robert Decatur Israel, San Diego pioneer, keeper of the Old Point Loma lighthouse
- Steve Israel (born 1958), American politician
- Steve Israel (American football) (born 1969), American football player
- Yuri Izrael (born 1930), Russian scientist and vice-chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

## References

- [1] James P. Boyd, *Bible dictionary*, Ottenheimer Publishers, 1958
- [2] <http://tools.wmflabs.org/bibleversefinder/?book=Genesis&verse=32:28&src=NIV>
- [3] Michael G. Hasel, *Domination and Resistance: Egyptian Military Activity in the Southern Levant*, Brill, 1998
- [4] <http://www.oup.com/us/catalog/general/subject/Bibles/StudyBibles/TanakhJewishversion/~~/dmlldz11c2EmY2k9OTc4MDE5NTI5NzUxNQ==>

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