

# GOD IS SERIES

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## THE NAMES OF GOD

EL ELYON E ADONAI  
JEHOVAH  
SABAOTH H ROHI RAPHA  
ABBA I EL SHADDAI  
SHAMMAH M JESUS

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# JEHOVAH

## (God)

### Genesis 2:4

*4 This is the account of heaven and earth when they were created, at the time when **Jehovah (God)** made earth and heaven.*

### Definition

Jehovah – The Existing One; I AM; He causes to become

The name Jehovah is one of the most used and most misunderstood names in the Bible. For centuries people have questioned, “what is God’s name?” Jehovah has been the most consistent, but is still questioned by scholars as to the accuracy of the Name. Ancient Hebrews did not use vowels and the name appeared as YHWH. His Name was considered too holy for human lips to pronounce. Nevertheless, it is important to understand that while we may never know the correct pronunciation of His Name, we know who He is.

Jehovah means **He causes (someone) to become (something)**. The Name only appears in the Bible a few times, but is used to not only declare Him, but also His attributes. Looking at the previous descriptions of God, we learn that He caused Himself to become our Peace (Shalom) - among many others. The most important thing we can learn from God’s Name is knowing who He is more than how to pronounce it.

### BIBLE REFERENCES

*... but by my name **Jehovah** was I not known to them. (Ex. 6:3)*

*That men may know that thou, whose name alone is **Jehovah**, art the most high over all the earth. (Ps. 83:18)*

*... for the Lord **Jehovah** is my strength and my song; (Is. 12:2)*

*... for in the Lord **Jehovah** is everlasting strength (Is. 26:4)*

There are a group of people who argue that Jehovah is not the accurate name of God. Rather they say that Yahweh is more appropriate. This is because there is no “J” sound in Hebrew. Yahweh carries the same meaning as Jehovah and therefore does not deter us from knowing the truth behind God. Instead of arguing for authenticity, it is important to know that if something does not take away from who God is, then it can only strengthen my understanding of Him.

Jehovah appeared to a few people throughout the Bible. The one He appeared to the most was Moses. During the time that He appeared to Moses, the people of Israel were beginning to lose faith and wonder if God was going to set them free from Egypt. When He appeared to Moses, He established with him and in him His Name - the existing One. He wanted Moses to tell God’s people that the EXISTING ONE (JEHOVAH) sent him to set them free. Once he established this, He then caused Moses to transform from an insecure man and become a deliverer. Moses could not have done this without God and knowing who He was. Likewise, God - the existing One - wants us to know who He is. He wants to take us from the point we are and translate us into who He wants us to become – His Children.

### QUESTIONS

1. Jehovah was considered too holy by the ancient Hebrews. By pronouncing it, are we considering it as losing its holiness?
2. Looking at our lives, what are some things that God can/has cause(d) to become?
3. The name Jehovah appears in the OT, but rarely in the NT. Why do you think this is so?

# ELOHIM

(Strong One; God (Plural))

## Genesis 1:26

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

## Definition

Elohim – plural form of El, meaning ‘Strong One;’ God

We continue our study on the Names of God with the first name used for God in the Bible – **Elohim**. The singular form of the name Elohim is El. It is generally used to precede various other names for God – **El Shaddai (God Almighty); El Elyon (God Most High); El Olam (Everlasting God)**. Simply put, the name El means “God.” Elohim is the first acknowledgement in the Bible of a Triune God. While God is God alone, there are three persons that make up who we know as God. While many can feel that this is a complex understanding for embracing the singularity and plurality of our God, we need to look at this name to understand its connection to the New Testament.

The first book of the Bible – Genesis – opens by saying, “*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*” If we move to the New Testament – **John 1:1-3** – we see another reference. “*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.*”

The thing to note about the Bible is its consistency from the beginning of the scriptures to the end. Many other religions and people try to say that Jesus was just a man and could not have been God because there is only one God (**Ephesians 4:5**). **Genesis 1:26** explains this further. There is clear plurality in the word “us” when God spoke in reference to making man, but this plurality does not imply polytheistic. God is THREE, but He is still ONE. The creation and impartation of similarity between God and man is seen through three aspects – **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**.

**MIND** – Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus. (**Philippians 2:5**)

**BODY** – And the Word became flesh... (**John 1:14**)

**SPIRIT** – ...you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in your midst? (**2 Cor. 3:16**)

Looking at these three we see the Godhead – three in one. (**1 John 5:7**). It is important to realize that **denying God’s plurality is denying God altogether**. The mind is God’s mind. He knows all and sees all. Jesus came in the form of a man and represents the figure (body) of God. The Holy Spirit is the inner peace, joy and comfort. It is impossible to look at God as just a figure (Jesus) because Jesus could not have survived in the Garden of Gethsemane without God’s mind (**Luke 22:41-44**) and without God’s Spirit to descend on Him and allow Him to begin His ministry (**John 1:32**).

As the Strong One, God created the world and everything in it. God created man and woman through Jesus (The Word) and then sent His Spirit to comfort us after He left. There is no one else who could do all this for us. When we hear Elohim, we must see the Trinity. To best understand this, let’s look at Fire. A fire must have three things to exist – Fuel, heat and oxygen. They are not the same, but if any ingredient is absent the fire ceases to be. Remove the fuel and the fire goes out. Lower the heat and the fire goes out. Take away the oxygen and the fire goes out.

## QUESTIONS

1. How can knowing the meaning of Elohim help you in your Christian walk?
2. Why would some people believe that Jesus is not God?
3. What is the error in the “Jesus Only” movement?

# ADONAI

## (The Lord Who Rules)

### Numbers 6:24-26

24 The Lord bless you and keep you; 25 The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; 26 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

### Definition

Adonai – Lord; The One who rules

Adonai is a commanding name that we give to God. In the Bible, most of the time when we see the name “Lord” it translates into Adonai. It first appears in Genesis 15:2 when Abram says “**Lord (Adonai) God,**”. To understand this name we have to understand our place and the argument of the serpent in Genesis 3. We were made in His image, likeness and with dominion, yet we were still underneath God. He was in charge and sin put this into question with the statement “**you will be like God...**” (**Gen. 3:5**). The beginning and the ending are not important because this statement still rings loud today. The hidden message is that you no longer need to serve or be underneath God. You can rise up and be an equal with Him. This lie is what has people believing that they can be their own god or exist without a God in their lives because it has fooled them into believing that removing God removes the position over them. The name Adonai is very important because it is not just a title (**Lord**) but also a confession (**The One Who Rules Over Me**).

### BIBLE REFERENCES

*I am ADONAI – there is no savior beside Me” (Is. 43:1)*

*ADONAI is my light and my salvation... (Ps. 27:1)*

*It is better to take refuge in ADONAI than to trust in man. (Ps. 118:1-25)*

*O ADONAI, hear; O ADONAI forgive. O ADONAI, pay attention (Dan. 9:1)*

*Not everyone that says ADONAI, ADONAI will enter... (Matt. 7:21)*

*Many will say to me in that day, ADONAI, ADONAI... (Matt. 7:22)*

Embracing the title and using it for God is an acceptance of who He is in your life. It signifies sovereignty and rule. When we allow God to be Lord, we are accepting that He is over us in position and rule with the understanding that we are may be capable to do some things but choose to surrender to the One who can do ALL THINGS and enable us to do all things through Him who strengthens us. One of the most dangerous things we can do is ignore the title of Adonai. God will not function in your life if He is not Adonai. This is confirmed when Jesus said many will say Lord (Adonai) but they clearly did not have Him established as Lord. It is an eye opener for us when we analyze the words to the song “He is Lord”. The last part of the song says “every knee will bow and every tongue confess”. We understand it to be a confession of the name Jesus, but it is the title attributed to Jesus – LORD.

### QUESTIONS

1. Why is saying the name Adonai not the most important thing for us to do?
2. How can we explain the value of the name Adonai to others?
  - a. (those in the kingdom)?
  - b. (those outside the kingdom)?
3. If I do things on my own, am I removing the name Adonai from operating in my life?

# JEHOVAH-ROHI

## *(God is my Shepherd)*

### Psalm 23:1

*I The LORD is my shepherd; I have everything I need.*

### Definition

Rohi – shepherd; feeding

It is so remarkable that just understanding who God is shows us everything about Himself, ourselves and the entire universe. He caused nothing to become something (earth, planets, even ourselves). The most important thing we learned was not writing or pronouncing Him Name, but that meaning supersedes pronunciation. Today we are going to look a little deeper into the name Jehovah (YHWH) and look at one of the many attachments to His name - ROHI. Psalm 23 is the most recognized passage in the Bible that talks about God being our Shepherd. The common understanding of a shepherd can lead a person to think a shepherd is someone who sits around in quiet open land watching sheep. The role is deeper than this. The Bible mentions **shepherds** and **shepherding** over 200 times. In the Hebrew, the word is often translated, “**feeding**.” Without the shepherd feeding the sheep, they would die of hunger. This information gives us a clearer picture and understanding of the role of a shepherd.

- Shepherds **lead** sheep to pasture and water. (Psalm 23:1);
- Shepherds **protect** sheep them from wild animals. (1 Sam. 17:34-35);
- Shepherds **guard** their flocks at night. (Luke 2:8; Zeph. 2:6);
- Shepherds **keep count** of their sheep as they enter. (Jeremiah 33:13);
- Shepherds **carry** weak lambs in their arms. (Isaiah 40:11).

### BIBLE REFERENCES (Used over 200 times) Here are a few...

*The Lord is my Shepherd. (Ps. 23:1)*

*I am the Good Shepherd. (Jn. 10:11; 14)*

*My sheep know my voice. (Jn. 10:27)*

*Separating sheep from goats. (Matt. 25:31-46)*

*The Great Shepherd of the sheep. (Heb. 13:20)*

*Shepherd of Your Souls. (1 Pet. 2:25)*

*Chief Shepherd. (1 Pet. 5:4)*

As the Good Shepherd, Jesus also desires His sheep to be good. Good sheep listen to His voice (**John 10:27**) and recognize it over another voice. The main reason the sheep hear and recognize the voice of the Good Shepherd is because He is always around them and they are around Him (**John 15:4**). As Christians, we are symbolically God’s sheep. We are to always listen to the voice of the Lord. If we do not listen, we could miss hearing Him speak and cause negative results not just on our lives, but on somebody else’s life. This is why we must see and know Him as our Shepherd because we have needs in our lives on a daily basis and we can be misled to have a role model lead us, a bodyguard protect us, a security system guard us, Facebook keep count of us, and the government carry us. At some point, all of those will fail because they are not equipped to be a Good Shepherd. It is a role that David fulfilled and that we see God call pastors to fulfill. A pastor should always feed and lead while protecting, guarding, keeping count, and carrying the weak of the flock God has entrusted to him, but He still is only in the position to point to the Good Shepherd because in Him... We have everything we need.

### QUESTIONS

1. Jesus fulfills all the necessary requirements of a shepherd. What stands out the most for you?
2. If God is our Shepherd, then why is He allowing His sheep to get hurt?
3. How do you think this lesson will help you grow more in knowing Him?

# JEHOVAH-SHALOM

## *(God is my PEACE)*

### **JUDGES 6:22-24**

22. Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the LORD. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face." 23. But the LORD said to him, "Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die." 24. Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, *The LORD Is Peace*.

### **Definition**

Shalom – Peace; to restore/ provide what is needed in order to make something whole

The name Jehovah-Shalom is only mentioned 1 time in the Bible. Judges 6 tells us that the Angel of the Lord visited Gideon and declared that he would lead Israel to victory even though it seemed impossible. How? Because God had a plan. There was one issue. Gideon needed courage. Only the Lord could provide this. Looking at the definition of shalom, we see that shalom is essentially a restoration process. It replaces the current form with a new form. God does the same inside of us. He removes fear, doubt and anxiety and replaces it with strength! This is the restoration that we know in Him because it removes our imperfection and replaces it with His perfection bringing us peace.

The antonym for PEACE is ANXIETY (fear)! Looking at the attributes for anxiety, we see that it:

- 1. Tries to take over our lives.**
- 2. Causes us to try to gain control of a situation.**
- 3. Makes something bad out of anything.**
- 4. Establishes a lack of Jesus.**

Essentially, Fear is the antonym for God's Presence (Jehovah Shammah). It removes God from a situation and leaves a mess. Without God, there is no peace. In the OT, God brought peace into the camp of the Israelites through victory in wars. Gideon realized in verse 24 that God was there to comfort and restore in him something that was no longer in Israel – Peace. Today God is still wanting to do the same thing. He wants to establish Peace. But peace without God is incomplete. There are wars going on in our families, in our minds, in our hearts. Before God can fix your surroundings, He must first be allowed to fix YOU.

### **BIBLE REFERENCES**

*God has not given us the spirit of fear... (2 Timothy 1:7)*

*Be anxious for nothing...(Philippians 4:6)*

*Cast all your anxieties on Him... (1 Peter 5:7)*

*He who dwells in the secret place... (Psalm 91)*

*Do not be afraid, for I am with you... (Isaiah 41:10)*

*Even though I walk through the valley... (Psalm 23:4)*

*...And His Name shall be called Wonderful,... (Isaiah 9:6)*

*For He Himself is our peace... (Ephesians 2:14)*

### **QUESTIONS**

1. How does the definition of shalom relates to Jesus.
2. If Jesus is the answer, why does the world search for peace outside of Jesus?
3. What are some ways you can allow peace to operate in your life?
4. Anxiety can cause sickness. God calls us to live in HIS PEACE, but we have to let go and let God. Why is this so hard for some people?

# JEHOVAH-NISSI

*(God is my BANNER!)*

## Exodus 17:15-16

15 Moses built an altar and called it The LORD is my Banner.

16 He said, "Because hands were lifted up against the throne of the LORD, the LORD will be at war against the Amalekites from generation to generation."

## Definition

Nissi – To flee for refuge; a banner; a standard

The name Jehovah-Nissi is only mentioned 1 time in the Bible but the attribute Nissi is mentioned multiple times. The name is synonymous with a declaration. In our church sanctuary, you will see many banners, but how often do we truly see them as more than just decoration. If you look back in history, the use of a banner was not **DECORATION**, but **DECLARATION**. It signaled their name and to whom they belonged. So, a banner with 50 stars and 13 stripes in red, white, and blue coloring would tell the enemy that the American troop is here as well as signal to those in distress that the ones on their side have shown up.

During the 50s and 60s there was a race to the moon between the United States Space Station and the Russian Space program. The United States reached the moon first and placed their country's flag in the ground of the moon. This flag showed the power in their space program. The power did not exist in the flag without those who had conquered the specific area. Jehovah-Nissi is more than just a name. It is a representation of one of the many characteristics regarding who God is. If God is our banner, then He is representing us. He represented us over 2000 years ago against mankind's greatest enemy - Satan. Today we no longer need to fight against the enemy because the war is over. We win every time we raise our hands and say "Lord, I give myself away."

Exodus 17 shows the Amalekites coming against the Israelites to kill them. Moses tells Joshua to prepare some men and fight the Amalekites. In the meantime he will stand on the hill with God's staff in his hand. As long as Moses' hands were raised, Israel was winning. If his hands fell, they began to lose the battle. In our lives, the same occurs when discussing Jehovah-Nissi. As our Banner and Refuge, He promises us that He will take care of us. The raising of hands is a sign of surrender. As long as we raise our hands to Him, He will take care of us and keep us in the midst of the battle.

## BIBLE REFERENCES

*You have given a BANNER to those who fear You... (Psalm 60:4)*

*His BANNER over me is love. (Song of Solomon 2:4)*

*He will lift up a BANNER to the nations from afar. (Isaiah 5:26)*

## QUESTIONS

1. Sometimes a banner is just thought of as a sign, but God is more than just that. What are some ways Jesus is your Banner.?
2. What is the significance of Moses' hands and our hands?
3. Jehovah Nissi shows who He is in a battle. It is nice because I can stand and watch from a position of victory. How does this make you feel?
4. If God is our Banner, why does it seem like we still struggle with sin even though we raise our hands to Him in prayer and praise?

# JEHOVAH-TSIDKENU

## *(The Lord Our Righteousness)*

### Jeremiah 23:5-6

*“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.*

*In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’*

### Definition

Tsidkenu – righteousness

During the time when this prophecy was spoken by Jeremiah, Judah was turning their backs away from God. Judah had a habit of following any and every religion that came into its pathway. If Judah was led by a king who did sinful things, the people followed in those same sinful ways. If the king followed God, then Judah practiced those things that renewed and brought them back into God’s grace. We have talked a lot about grace recently. Grace, which can only be offered by God, is the only thing that can offer God’s righteousness.

When we look at the attribute “**Tsidkenu**” we find out that it means “a standard of measurement (our nature against God’s nature).”

Christians sometimes look like the kingdom of Judah. Some Christians live their lives as if they are riding a roller coaster. They follow God only when things are good. Our walk with Christ is directly connected to who we have ruling over our lives. God is not trying to share you with another “god.” **Galatians 6:7-8** says “*Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.*”

As Christians have to realize is that God is righteous, He is holy, and He is just. Our Christian lives are measured by God’s standard of righteousness. Sin separates us from God and we therefore become enemies of righteousness and truth. **Isaiah 64:6** says that “*all our righteous deeds are as filthy garments;*” however there is someone who changed that for us. Christ came so that we may be declared righteous in the sight of God. We will never be perfect we will always be working towards perfection. We must remember that the Lord is our righteousness and through the cross we have everything we need to set us free from sin. Grace will save us and grace will sustain us.

### BIBLE REFERENCES

- **Deut. 6:25** – And if we are careful to obey all this law before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness.”
- **2 Sam. 22:25** – The Lord has rewarded me according to my righteousness, according to my cleanness in his sight.
- **Job 29:14** – I put on righteousness as my clothing; justice was my robe and my turban.
- **Ps. 7:17** – I will give thanks to the Lord because of His righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the Lord Most High.
- **Ps. 9:8** – He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity.

### QUESTIONS

1. Who is sitting on the throne in your life?
2. How do you include God in your daily life?
3. How will you change the way you pursue God?
4. How have you settled for being a good enough Christian rather than being all God has called you to be?



# JEHOVAH-JIREH

## *(The Lord is my Provider)*

### **Genesis 22:14**

*Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-Jireh, the LORD is my provider. As it is said to this day, "In the LORD's mountain it will be provided."*

### **Definition**

Jireh – provides; will see to it

Jehovah-Jireh which occurs only in Genesis 22:14 in the Bible, is a symbolic name given to Mount Moriah by Abraham to honor God in providing a ram in the bush instead of the original sacrifice of Abraham's son Isaac. The attribute "Jireh" is defined as, "The Lord will see to it, The Lord who will provide. It is not just that God is able to provide for you, but He also sees the situation and knows exactly what you are going through. He is fully capable of surpassing any limits and providing when there seems to be no possible way for provision.

### **"MAN'S EXTREMITY IS GOD'S OPPORTUNITY!"**

As Christians we struggle with a simple problem – TRUST. It just seems too difficult to trust that the Lord will provide. So many times people look towards the things of this world to fulfill their needs, wants, and desires and only realize when it is too late that this world cannot fulfill what God can provide. We have to turn away from the things of this world, open our Bible and focus on God. God is the only one who is always reliable, always good, steadfast, honest, effective, and there for us. Today people have so many needs; personal and special and so little human resources to fulfill those needs. God wants us to know Him as a Father who will be there for us no matter what may come our way. Jehovah-Jireh will not fall short in making sure that all of our needs are met, on time, every time, just as He did for Abraham.

### **BIBLE REFERENCES**

- *Oh fear the LORD, you his saints... those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing. Ps. 34:9,10*
- *...He withholds no good thing from those who walk blamelessly... Ps. 84:11*
- *But seek first God's Kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things will be given to you as well. Matt. 6:33*
- *Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?...Matthew 6:26*
- *Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over ...1Chronicles 29:12*
- *Jesus Five loaves and two fish...Mathew 14:15-21, Mark 6:35-44, Luke 9:12-17, John 6:5-13*
- *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, that you, always having all sufficiency in everything...2 Corinthians 9:8*
- *Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Isn't there more to life than food and more to the body than clothing? Matthew 6:25-34*

### **QUESTIONS**

1. How has the Lord been a provider in your life?
2. Why is it sometimes hard to see God in difficult circumstances?
3. With the understanding that God is our Jehovah-Jireh how will you begin to incorporate Jehovah-Jireh in your everyday life?
4. Which scriptures speak to you on God being your Jehovah-Jireh?

# JEHOVAH-SHAMMAH

(*God is Present*)

## Ezekiel 48:35

*The circumference of the city shall be 18,000 cubits. And the name of the city from that time on shall be, **The LORD Is There.***"

### Definition

Shammah – present

Ezekiel 48 is the final chapter in the book. This chapter closes out by saying “God is present (there). From our very beginnings to our endings, it is so wonderful to know that God is with us. This name is only used once in the Bible in Ezekiel 48:35. God is telling his people to build the city of Jerusalem and tells them what the name of the city will be.

The word “shammah” means “desolation, waste, ruin. Looking at the definition for “Shammah” this does not look like a word to rejoice about. It immediately brings about the thought of discouragement and disappointment. However, when Jehovah is attached to the word, its meaning IMMEDIATELY changes. It moves from desolation to hope. From sorrow to gladness. From hurt to heal. Sadly there are some people who do not want to be involved in the waste. God says that He is looking for the junk, so He can dwell and make it a GEM. This is how God works. He establishes Himself in the midst of desolation and ruin (our lives before Him) and He makes it a MASTERPIECE.

It is important to note that God visits in waste, but it does not and cannot stay as waste, or ruin. This is an impossibility. Wherever God is, there is a change in the atmosphere. Everything around must conform to His standards. Therefore, what was a place of waste, cannot stay waste. If it does, God cannot stay. Either waste goes or God goes. Think of a garage sale. As you are shopping, you come across a beautiful ring. The person says it is just junk jewelry so you can have it for \$5. You purchase it and take it home. Upon further investigation, you find out that this is a 14 karat gold ring with a 1.5 carat diamond. After you discover this, you begin to clean it up with jewelry cleaner. Why? Because it is worth something. This is what God sees in us. Satan and the world sees desolation, waste, garbage, ruin – junk jewelry. God sees a diamond. The key to junk become a gem is allowing God to dwell in your midst and allowing Him to clean up everything. **Before Him, your life was a waste. Since Him, your life is \_\_\_\_\_ (you fill in the blank)**

### BIBLE REFERENCES

*The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. (Psalm 46:11)*

*And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. (Revelation 21:3)*

### QUESTIONS

1. How does it feel to know that God dwells in your midst?
2. If God is in our midst and things begin to change, then why do the circumstances sometimes still stay the same?
3. (**Read Psalm 46:1-11**) What is your take on this chapter after this lesson?
4. When you consider where you were and where you are today, how was God been **Jehovah-Shammah** for you?

# JEHOVAH-RAPHA

## *(The Lord Who Heals)*

### Exodus 15:26

*He said, "If you listen carefully to the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you."*

### Definition

Rapha – to heal (physically); to completely repair and restore.

The Israelites complained about everything after they were delivered from Egypt. In the wilderness, they had no water and the water they found was bitter so it gave them a greater reason to complain. God told Moses what to do to heal the water so they could drink from it. It was a guide for us to see today because there are so many things that tend to cause so many diseases and issues within our bodies. Not only do we worry about physical alignments, but we also have stressors that press us on every side. We are plagued with deadlines, unemployment, homelessness, unstable government, and other things that are uncertain to us every day. However, we have a God who does not just see the situation, but is able to heal the bitterness.

### BIBLE REFERENCES

*Who forgives all your iniquities; who heals all your diseases (Ps. 103:3)*

*He heals the broken in heart and binds up their wounds. (Ps. 147:3)*

*...and they brought to Him all sick people... and He healed them (Matt. 4:24)*

*And the blind and the lame came to Him...and He healed them (Matt 21:14)*

*Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed;... (Jer. 17:14)*

God said in verse 26 that if we “listened carefully to Him and keep all of his decrees that He will not bring on us any diseases that He brought on the Egyptians.” This was not the first or the last time God mentioned in His word for believers to be obedient. He commanded the people to “Walk in obedience to all that the Lord your God has commanded you, so that you may live and prosper and prolong your days in the land that you will possess.” (**Deuteronomy 5:33**). Obedience leads to a life full of unlimited rewards from our Heavenly Father. Listening to God’s instruction and following His commandments opens doors that God can use to not only bless and heal us but others around us. While this is satisfying, we must also see the healing is also there to repair and restore what was lost, taken, or broken. This restoration is necessary for us because the enemy is not trying to stop some from being Christians, but wants to keep their relationships broken. God does not only want to heal. He wants to completely restore His children to where they are supposed to be. Restoration is the part of God’s name that we must embrace because God wants it for us, if we are obedient and trust in the **God who heals**.

### QUESTIONS

1. In what areas in your life have you provided a wall that disconnects you from God?
2. What areas in your life would you like God to restore?
3. How has your thinking changed on who God is to you in your life?
4. Thinking about all the things going on in this world today, how does the world deal with its issues?
5. Are there times in your life where you did not trust God to heal you?
6. How many bitter things in your life has God changed for you?

# JEHOVAH-SABAOTH

## *(The Lord Of Hosts)*

### **Amos 4:13**

*For behold, He Who forms mountains & creates the wind & declares to man what are His thoughts, He Who makes dawn into darkness and treads on the high places of the earth, the **LORD God of hosts (Sabaoth)** is His name.*

### **Definition**

Sabaoth – Army, a host; to wage war.

When we look at the definition of Sabaoth, we see the words war and army. This name appears almost 300 times in the Bible. The name Sabaoth automatically takes our minds to an army, or a group of people ready for war. God is ready to defend us when we encounter times that try to make us nervous or anxious. When we are at the end of our rope and trapped in a corner, we need someone to defend us. Sadly, many turn to unsaved friends/family members, self-help books, or just blame God for the problem(s). He is right there ready to take over the situation, but will only do so when we give Him the “green light” to proceed. We cannot expect God to wage war on our situation, our problems, our circumstances if we are trying to solve the problem ourselves. We cannot expect deliverance if we trust more in a man than the Maker of man.

This is the example that Joshua saw in chapter 5. He saw a man on a horse with a sword and wanted to know if this man of war was on Israel’s side or their enemies. He said NEITHER! I am the captain of the host of the Lord. Sometimes we want God to be on our side and against our enemies, but God is waiting for us to be on His side because He will not defend our mess or explain our mistakes. He will only defend who He is and all those on His side. The situations that we experience only allow us to invite the Lord of Hosts. As God, He is always ready to wage war on the situations in our lives. He just does not wage war the way we are used to seeing war. He calls us to praise and worship Him – the Maker of Heaven and Earth. The One who formed the mountains and created the wind. He did the same thing for Job. Once Job realized this, then Jehovah Sabaoth was able to perform a mighty work. In order for Him to be Jehovah Sabaoth, you must “**LET GO AND LET GOD!**”

### **BIBLE REFERENCES**

*1 Samuel 1:3 - Now this man would go up from his city yearly to worship and to sacrifice to the LORD of hosts in Shiloh.*

*Is. 1:9 - Unless the LORD of hosts had left us a few survivors, We would be like Sodom, We would be like Gomorrah.*

*Is. 6:3 - Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD (Jehovah) of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.*

*Is. 44:6 – Thus says **Jehovah**, the King of Israel & his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first & I am the last & there is no God besides Me.*

*Josh. 5:13-15 - ... No, but as Captain of the host of the Lord am I now come...*

*Zech 4:6 - Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit says the LORD of Hosts*

*Rev. 17:14 - These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful.*

### **QUESTIONS**

1. What areas in your life are battles in which you need Jehovah Sabaoth?
2. How more will you focus on praising and worship God in your daily life?
3. If He is the Captain of the Hosts, then why do people always want an angel to protect them?

# ABBA

(Daddy)

## MATTHEW 6:9

*Pray then like this: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.*

### Definition

Abba – Father

For centuries people have known and talked about the God who created the heavens and the earth (**Gen. 1:1**). This same God is spoken as the Ruler over all and holds all power in His mighty Hand (**Ps. 47:8**). When we read in the Old Testament, we see that God is seen and understood as our God in Heaven. While this is an accurate perception, it is a very impersonal depiction. Islam teaches that Allah is one and no one is able to have a relationship with him. They acknowledge his authority and teach their followers to submit. Again, this approach is accurate even though they are serving a false god. On the other hand, I can never know his ways.

David said in **Ps 27:11 & 86:11 - Teach me Your Ways**. It was a cry that beckoned a desire beyond just knowing His as God. David wanted to know Him as a Friend (Prov. 18:24).

In the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew, Jesus was teaching His disciples the manner to pray. The introduction is the most important part of the prayer. It shows a level of intimacy that people were not used to when they prayed to God. Jesus was showing His disciples a name for God that was more intimate than all the other names the Pharisees and Sanhedrin knew - Abba. The name is the most intimate of all the names. Jesus wanted His disciples to realize that they could have a relationship with God while still seeing Him as Jehovah-Nissi. The beauty in the name Abba is that it is not the normal name for a father. Rather it is a term of endearment for a person's father; like saying daddy!

Jesus wants us to see the Father for who He is - Our Daddy! As a son, I looked up to my dad and tried to do things that would make him happy. When I did, I enjoyed seeing the smile on his face, the hugs and hearing him say, "I love you son!" He would protect me when I was in trouble. He disciplined me when I did wrong. He provided for me when I needed help. He was more than just a father. Now lets look at our Heavenly Daddy. He watches over us and makes sure we are protected. When we call on Him, He listens and smiles as we do His Will. It is especially wonderful for those of us who never had someone to call "father" or "daddy."

Why would we just want to know Him as God. He is more than that. He wants to have a fatherly relationship with us and hear us call him DADDY!

### BIBLE REFERENCES

... *our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name. (Matthew 6:9)*

... *"Abba, Father, all things are possible for you..." (Mark 14:36)*

... *but you received the Spirit of adoption by who we cry out, "Abba, Father." (Romans 8:15)*

... *God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" (Galatians 4:6)*

### QUESTIONS

1. How much joy does it bring to your heart to know that God wants to be your Father?
2. Christianity is the only religion that teaches RELATIONSHIP over RELIGION. How can that be beneficial?
3. How intimate have you been with God? Will you grow closer after this lesson?

# EL ELYON

## *(Strongest of the Strong)*

### Psalm 57:2

*I will cry unto **God most high**; unto God that performs all things for me.*

### DEFINITION

El – God. **Elyon** – Most High. **El Elyon** – Most High God; Possessor of Heaven & Earth; Strongest of the strong

I remember the conversations growing up about whose daddy could beat up whose daddy. As kids we would try to describe our dads and give reasons why we believe our dads are the strongest. There is always a kid who tells how his dad either lifted a car, can bench press almost 500 lbs, or was jumped by a bunch of guys and beat them all up without a scratch. All the kids call him a liar and an argument ensues only to have that kid's dad pick him up from school and they find out he is Mike Tyson or Michael Jai White or Chuck Norris... The argument is over! As believers, this name for our God is a name that ends all arguments because there is none above Him.

We see this name first when Melchizedek is described as the priest of the Most High God (**Gen. 14:18-20**) as he pronounced a blessing. It implies that God is not just the strongest when we need to fight a battle, but also when we are acknowledging Him preeminence. The acknowledgement that David gives to this name is in his time of distress and sorrow. He calls out to God (Elohim) (**2 Sam. 22:7**) and El Elyon responds (**2 Sam. 22:14**). While these are 2 separate names mentioned, we must see that David's acceptance of the fullness of who God is allowed the defining response from God. It tells us that we do not need to use the name but know the definition and attribute it to the proper person. David calls on the Strong One and God responds by stating I am the strongest in this argument.

### BIBLE REFERENCES

*... Blessed be Abram of the **MOST HIGH GOD**. (Gen 14:19)*

*... will sing praise to the name of the Lord **MOST HIGH** (Ps. 9:2)*

*... the holy place of the tabernacles of the **MOST HIGH** (Ps. 46:4)*

*Then Nebuchadnezzar came near... and spake... ye servants of the **MOST HIGH GOD**, come forth... (Dan.3:26)*

*My people... though they called them to the **MOST HIGH**, none at all would exalt Him. (Hos. 11:7)*

*... What have I to do with Thee, Jesus, Thou Son of the **MOST HIGH GOD**?... (Mk. 5:7)*

When you read the Bible References, one of the things you see is that the name is not just a declaration of who is the strongest, but also a confession by demons and even nonbelievers that this God is greater and stronger. If they know, how much more should we as the ones who have a relationship with Him? Doing this means we surrender knowing that He is the great defender for us. As His people, we know this and are willing to not just accept and surrender but also praise the Most High (**Ps. 9:2**) with the intention of showing the enemy that God is the Most High (**Ps. 83:18**) while declaring that the strongest attack or the strongest temptation cannot break us because the Strongest of the strong is able to keep us safe, strengthen our spirits and defend His name in the middle of anything we may go through.

### QUESTIONS

1. How has knowing the name El Elyon helped you know more about your relationship with God?
2. If I am going through a battle and there is no response, is this because I did not use the name El Elyon?
3. Is there a way to implement this name into your prayer life? Your praise life?

# JESUS

*(The Lord Saves)*

## Matthew 1:21

*She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.*

### Definition

Jesus – The Lord who saves; God our salvation

Throughout the Old Testament God had proven Himself to the children of Israel.

*He was Jehovah-Rapha when they needed a Healer.*

*He became Jehovah-Jireh when they needed a Provider.*

*He was Jehovah-Tsikenu, their Righteousness.*

*He was Jehovah-Rohi when they needed a Shepherd.*

*He was Jehovah-Nissi when they needed a Banner.*

God constantly became whoever they needed in their hour of need. Yet they still rebelled against God and wanted to do their own thing. It is sad when you look at the world today and see the similarity between us and the children of Israel. We like to do whatever pleases us. We always look to temporary points of satisfaction over the marathon that will bring eternal satisfaction. This choice leads us to the point where we are so far from hearing God that His Voice is faint in our ears. It is not that He is not speaking, but rather that He cannot be heard because we have bumped the dial on the radio. The station is still in range, but the reception is not clear. This was the case with Israel, but to a greater degree.

They had bumped the dial so much that they hit the power button that they turned off the radio. At the conclusion of the Old Testament leading into the New Testament, there was a period of 400 years when God became silent. There was no prophet, no word spoken, no voice heard. SILENCE! It was in this period of silence that God prepared to send His Son – Jesus. At the arrival of Jesus, there appeared to be no hope in Israel. The Romans were dominant in the land; sin was running rampant and rebellion was as the norm. It was at this point that the children not only needed a Provider and Shepherd, but also Righteousness and a Banner. They needed the full package all at once – JESUS. They needed a Savior!

When God sent Jesus, it was for the purpose of restoration, salvation, and deliverance. The word Salvation means “*to deliver or rescue from a dire situation.*” We needed to be rescued from the grip/ power of sin. There was no longer going to be a need for an individual characteristic for a specific need. Jesus was going to be the answer to problem – SIN. When He was born, the silence was broken and the Word of God was delivered. **(John 1:14)** With His life, death, burial, and resurrection, He released the Word through His disciples. **(Matthew 28:18-20)** His disciples spread the Word.

It is important to realize that while God has made Jesus our salvation, He has not taken over God’s authority. Jesus – as God’s Word – has become God’s salvation for the people. Jesus is not only The Word. He is not just our Salvation. He is also the fullness of everything that God was in the Old Testament. **(Phil. 2:6-11; Col. 1:19)**. Once He defeated sin, death, and the grave, He released the power of sin and established the power of salvation. (Rom. 6:14) All we need to realize is that we have Savior in Jesus. Essentially in Him is everything we need. **(Phil 4:19)**

### Questions

1. How have you seen God’s salvation deliver you?
2. The silence was important in preparation to the salvation. How can we see this applied in today’s world?
3. In what ways can the Name Jesus be similar to the OT names of God?
4. Are there times in your life when you feel sin has a grip over your life? How can you change those times?