

## NAMES

- **INTRO:** God is so beyond amazing and surpasses awesomeness, that there is no one name that describes His sheer perfection. Instead, there are several names by which He calls Himself and a host of names His people have called Him. Nicknames are doled out for the ordinary & the extraordinary, but when the Bible reveals a name for God, it is more than a nickname. It is something far greater, much higher, and so much more important. Each name reveals a different thread of His power, a different bent of His authority, and a different side of His character. We need to know God by His names, because they remind us that no matter what situation we face, HE IS THE I AM who is qualified to see us through to victory.
- **RECAP:** Last week we discussed the name, *Yahweh: The Great "I AM,"* which reminds us that God is Eternal, Self-Existent, & Incomparable!
- **TODAY** we will look at two of God's Redemptive Names - called so because each reveal to us an aspect of God's amazing redemptive personality and character.

## Week #2 – Jireh & Rapha

### Yahweh-Jireh

- **Genesis 22:1-14 (NIV)** - *Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. 2 Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you." 3 Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. 4 On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. 5 He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you." 6 Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, 7 Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" 8 Abraham answered, "God himself will provide (Elohim Jireh) the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together. 9 When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. 11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am," he replied. 12 "Do not lay a hand on the*

boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.” 13 Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham called that place *The Lord Will Provide (Yahweh-Jireh)*. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided.”

- Lessons from this passage:
  1. **It’s not what it looks like!**
    - a. God was working on something so much bigger than what Abraham could fathom. From Abraham’s limited view it must’ve appeared like God was the villain of the story. But in reality, God was showing us just how much He loves us because 2000 years later He was going to follow thru and sacrifice his beloved Son to save us all.
    - b. **QUOTE:** *Trusting God means obeying, even when we don’t understand.*
  2. **God sees and provides BEFORE the need arises!**
    - a. Jireh is a Hebrew word that means provide, perceive, experience & see to it.
    - b. When you add *Yahweh* to *Jireh* this is what is revealed about your God:
    - c. **YAHWEH-JIREH** = *The eternal incomparable God who is more than enough all by Himself knows my need; He sees and experiences it with me, and will see to it that my need will be provided!*

## **Yahweh-Rapha**

- **CONTEXT:** Most of us are familiar with the Bible story of God parting the Red Sea so the Israelites exiting Egyptian slavery could cross the sea by foot on dry land. On the other side of the sea, they found themselves traveling through a desert for three days unable to find water.
- **Exodus 15:23-26 NLT** - *When they came to the oasis of Marah, the water was too bitter to drink. So they called the place Marah (which means “bitter”). 24 Then the people complained and turned against Moses. “What are we going to drink?” they demanded. 25 So Moses cried out to the Lord for help, and the Lord showed him a piece of wood. Moses threw it into the water, and this made the water good to drink. It was there at Marah that the Lord set before them the following decree as a standard to test their faithfulness to him. 26 He said, “If you will listen carefully to the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in his sight, obeying his commands and keeping all his decrees, then I will not make you suffer any of the diseases I sent on the Egyptians; for I am the Lord (YHWH) who heals you (Rapha).”*

- “Heal” is how the Hebrew word “rapha” is usually translated in Scripture, but **Rapha also means “to mend, repair, or restore something to its normal or useful state”**.
- God is a fixer! He “fixed” the water so that it could serve its intended function then used that miracle to teach his children something about His covenant with those that are His:
- **Yahweh-Rapha = *The eternal incomparable One who is more than enough all by Himself is my healer! My God is able, willing and ready to mend, repair, and restore my body back to its normal and useful condition!***
  1. **QUOTE: GOD IS ABLE TO HEAL: Romans 8:11 NIV-** *And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.*
  2. **QUOTE: GOD IS WILLING TO HEAL: Acts 10:38 NLT -** *And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.*
  3. **QUOTE: GOD IS READY TO HEAL:**
    - a. **Matthew 8:16-17 NLT -** *That evening many demon-possessed people were brought to Jesus. He cast out the evil spirits with a simple command, and he healed all the sick. 17 This fulfilled the word of the Lord through the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 53:4-5), who said, “He took our sicknesses and removed our diseases”.*
    - b. The rest of the passage that Matthew is quoting from in Isaiah 53 says “...and with His stripes we ARE healed”. Matthew rightly says this prophecy is now fulfilled. **No more waiting!** No wonder when Peter quoted Isaiah’s prophecy, he changed the words from “are healed” to “were healed”:
      - i. **1 Peter 2:24 NKJV -** *...who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.*