

## [Faith, Hope & Love\\_Part4](#)

We are continuing our study on the Kingdom of God with our emphasis being on the building blocks of the Kingdom: faith, hope, and love (**1 Corinthians 13:13**). We have come to understand that faith is all about practically applying the facts about God which have been revealed to us; or, said in a more familiar way, betting our lives on these facts about God and making all our choices according to these facts. By faith, the facts about God are to replace the lies which the king of this world has told us about God, the lies which others have told us about God, and the lies which our fear and emotions speak to us. Amongst many other demonstrative ways, these facts about our God have been revealed in the very name of God. *And there is much power in the Name when it is accompanied by faith.* You see God is just as His name reveals; that is a fact. And He can be that for you. You can know Him in the depth of His character and nature, which is revealed by the name, when you bet your life on His name and make your choices consistent with the role He claims to have over your life. And if you do, there is great power that will be unleashed in your life for we know that **everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**

As we have learned so far, Jesus is our **El Shaddai**: the Lord God Almighty. He is in control of all, He knows all and has predetermined all things, and He has the ultimate power over all things, for all authority has been given to Him in heaven and on earth (**Matthew 28:18**). He is our **El Elyon**: the Most High God. He is sovereign, He is strength, and He is supreme. If the Most High God dominates your being, you have nothing to fear, for no one and nothing can come against the Most High God. Believing in these first two names is the cure for all anxiety and fear. But

you have to bet your life on these names and let the Lord dispossess all that is in you which tries to be the god of your life and replace it with all that is Him.

He is also our **Adonai**: the Lord our Master. He has ownership and possession over us; after all, He redeemed us and purchased the rights to our lives with His own blood. Now we need to live like He is our Master and do only what He wants us to do, say only what He wants us to say, and go only where He wants us to go. This requires us to relinquish all control and all our desire to rule and define our own lives. We must stop trying to get what we want out of this life and this world. It is sad and pathetic the way we grab for this and for that to try and make our lives ok. He is our Master; we need to trust ourselves to His rule and dominion over our lives realizing that this world has nothing for us.

Fourth, He is **Yahweh**: the I Am. This name captures it all. He is everything we need all the time. He is it. This means that if we call on His name in faith (which means we must be willing to wait for His provision for our lives instead of trying to be our own provision), He will be our sufficiency for every need whether practical or emotional. He has the ability to heal all our wounds, fill our holes, comfort us when afflicted, and be the love that we so desperately need. He steadies us when we are wavering, He strengthens us when we are weak, He helps us understand when we are confused, and He is our life.

**If we call on His name we will be saved** *for there is much power in the name when it is accompanied by faith.* "By faith" is the key to actually experiencing God and knowing Him by His name. Therefore, you must be willing to forego all else: especially your emotions that tell you all manner of lies. They tell you that you are the one who has to take care of yourself. They tell you that no one really loves you,

much less God. They tell you that you are not special to Him, and He is not going to actually care for you. They tell you that He works for others but not for you. But it is all lies, lies, lies; and these lies are purposed at keeping you from taking the reasoned and calculated risk of betting your life on His name. Although, I must say that betting your life on His name is in fact no risk at all, since His name is sure as He never changes. It just feels like a risk. And each and every one of us is going to have to decide deep within our soul that we are not going to obey our feelings. We may feel them, but who cares, that is just humanity; that is normal. But we sure do not have to make another decision by our feelings; that is supernatural, and that is the power of the Name accompanied by faith. And with that exhortation, let's pick up with other aspects of God's character and nature revealed by His name.

5. **Jehovah Nissi** – the Lord my Banner or my Refuge. In the days when Israel left Egypt and were marching towards the Promised Land, they divided into groups by tribes. Each tribe carried a banner or a standard which identified their peculiar tribe. For instance, Judah's banner had a lion and the banner of the tribe of Naphtali had a gazelle. During war and travel each person went out according to their banner; it identified them. They moved when the banner moved and they also rallied and gathered together at the banner; and in the midst of war when things get crazy, that banner was like a beautiful refuge.

It was victory in a great battle that the Lord prophetically revealed this name to Moses in **Exodus 17:8-16**. After the war, Moses raised up an altar and declared that God was His banner, the one who is our refuge and victory. Moses knew that it was the Lord who won the battle for the Israelites, and it was only because of Him that their enemies were defeated. Thus, in stating that God is his Banner, Moses was

declaring for himself and on behalf of the nation Israel that they are fully and completely identified by the Lord as He is the one who goes before them in battle and leads them to victory. He was declaring to all that they did not win the war, they merely were the ones whom God used to win the war. It was all Him.

This is such a powerful name; it goes to our very identity. If you were honest and were to raise a banner over your life containing a picture or word to capture and communicate to both those in the world and to all the unseen powers what actually identifies your life, what would it be: fear, pride, shame, emotions, intellect, practicality, bitterness, anger, hatred, murder, loneliness, insecurity, victim, narcissist, depression, drugs, hopelessness, injustice, sexuality, pornography, eating disorder, passivity, resentment, power, authority, control, personal goodness, or even demonically possessed? Sadly, these are the banners most of us fly and these banners represent how we have chosen to identify ourselves and they have become our rallying point and place of refuge in trouble. But **Jehovah Nissi** reminds us that if we run to our God and let Him be our refuge, if we identify ourselves with Him knowing that He is our victory, then all the enemies in our land (whether those enemies are in our soul or external) will know that the Lord fights for us through us. And that is a powerful declaration, for in choosing to declare that the Lord is my banner, you will be rejecting all those other ways you have identified yourself to the world, to the angels and demons, and to yourself.

He is our banner of victory. He conquers and He is the one who wins our battles. We just have to be willing to turn to Him and to *only* Him fully identifying ourselves with Him. If we keep identifying our lives by our plethora of personal banners we tend to fly, then we will see very little permanent victory in our lives. He is victory

which is a far different thing than our ability to have victory. For example, we can lead by our intellect, or our emotions, and seemingly have a victory in one area of our life—even in making the right choices which are required of a “good” Christian. But that is so short-lived. When He is our victory and we declare that we will let Him lead us in battle, then we will live in His victory. For example, we have seen God deliver us from so much in this body; we are all so different even from 1 year ago. He has been very busy routing our enemies; and the most recent to go is the connection which the “Religious Demons” made to many in this body. Jesus went forth in assured victory and cut these connections for us, we just had to partner with Him in this effort and be willing to take the land that He has given to us. That is it. The Lord is our Banner.

In ***Exodus 17:14*** (when God revealed this name) the Lord told Moses that He will utterly blot out the memory of their enemy (Amalek) from under heaven. Do you understand how glorious this is? If you call on the name of the Lord and run only to Him to be your victory, if you refuse to fly your own banners of identity and walk away from those fleshly lusts of self-pity and self-love which seduce us to carry those personal banners, He will blot out your enemies from under heaven (even those that are deeply ingrained in your land). That means you will no longer be enslaved or controlled by the enemies within your soul (no matter what they are); rather they will be routed and you will live free and be able to enjoy a relationship with God without the constant harassment by those enemies. Bet your life that He is victory and He is your refuge. Let His name—**Jehovah Nissi**—be the banner which you fly over your life. Simply refuse to fly those other banners and choose instead to burn them.

6. **Jehovah Raah** – the Lord my Shepherd. Jesus is not just the Shepherd, but according to *Hebrews 13:20* and *1 Peter 5:4* He is our Great Shepherd. A shepherd leads the sheep to good pastures where there is food to satisfy their hunger. The shepherd leads the sheep to fresh water to refresh their dry and parched tongues. The shepherd fights against the enemies that try to steal the sheep, attack the sheep, or infect the sheep. The shepherd heals the sheep who are sick, looks after them day and night, seeks them out when they wander, and rescues them when they are in trouble. The shepherd does not leave the sheep but is always with them. The shepherd has a very watchful eye and knows the movements of the enemies of the flock. The shepherd also knows the best pathways on which to lead the sheep. That is what a shepherd does; but Jesus is the Great shepherd, which means there is no one who does the job better than Him. He is great at doing what He does all the time. Rarely do sheep understand the journey and the paths the shepherd chooses, but they follow him and trust his voice to lead them to safety. Sheep are very fearful by nature, but they find their comfort in following the voice of their shepherd.

The question you have to ask yourself is do you believe this to be true. Are you willing to bet your life that Jesus knows the best pathways on which to lead you, the best pastures and watering holes to get the best food and water? Remember, He is not just a shepherd, He is the Great Shepherd. To call on His name is to look back on your life and thank Him for the paths that He has taken you down, no matter how difficult they may have been, for your Great Shepherd knew which roads you needed to venture down. Every pasture and every watering hole was necessary. He knew that in each and every place He led you the available food and

water would grow in you a desire and a yearning for Him (the only One who can satisfy your soul). Therefore, to call on His name is to look at your life and where it is now and thank Him for where He has you and to simply enjoy this place while waiting for the commands of the Shepherd to direct you here or there. He will lead you all the time, it is what He does; and He wants you to declare **Jehovah Raah**—the Lord is my Shepherd—and rest knowing that when it is time for Him to lead you to a different pasture or watering hole, He will do it. To call upon His name is to rest in the fact that the grass He has you eating is the best grass for you at this point in time. And when you need something more, He will lead you to it. He always does.

This name should once again bring great rest into your soul and cure you of anxiety and fear. You don't have to worry about meeting your own needs or figuring out where you need to go and what you need to do: your Father in Heaven knows what you need before you ask Him and He knows where He wants to lead you (remember, He is **El Shaddai**). And He is fully able to communicate His desires to your soul.

### ***Matthew 6:25-34***

For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 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? And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life? And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they

spin, yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?' For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Jesus is your **Jehovah Raah** and He will get you what you need when you need it. He will provide and He will lead you to exactly the right pastures and the right springs of water. Trust in this. DO NOT FEAR! DO NOT WORRY! Practically, however, the ability to rest in Jesus being your **Jehovah Raah** is premised upon the command to seek **first** the kingdom of God. If His perspective of this life is your aim, then you will know rest. If trying to make this world what you want and believe it should be for you, there will never be rest in your soul. And you will not be able to appreciate or be thankful for the pastures and the springs of water to which the Lord has led you. Above all, seek first His Kingdom. He is your Great Shepherd and He will do His job; you just need to focus on learning all about the Kingdom of God and choosing to live in the Kingdom of God.

7. **Jehovah Rapha** – the Lord Heals. This is an interesting combination of words and I bet most people who say this name do not really appreciate the implication.



The use of Jehovah (the “Lord”)—the one who is in control of all things—in connection with healing implies that God is the one who is responsible for all your wounds. But He is also willing to heal the very wounds that He inflicted. Let’s start with some very specific scriptures to get our heads around this name.

***Deuteronomy 32:39***

See now that I, I am He, and there is no god besides Me; it is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded and it is I who heal, and there is no one who can deliver from My hand.

***Job 5:18***

For though he wounds, he also bandages. He strikes, but his hands also heal.

***Jeremiah 30:17***

For I will restore you to health and I will heal you of your wounds, declares the Lord.

***Hosea 6:1***

Come, let us return to the Lord. For He has torn us, but He will heal us; He has wounded us, but He will bandage us.

***Psalms 103:1-5***

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits; who pardons all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases; who redeems your life from the pit, who

crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion; who satisfies your years with good things, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle.

***Isaiah 30:26***

The moon will be as bright as the sun, and the sun will be seven times brighter—like the light of seven days in one! So it will be when the Lord begins to heal his people and cure the wounds he gave them.

***Psalms 147:1-3***

Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant and praise is becoming. The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

It is clear from these passages that the Lord, the One who is in control of all things—every little detail, takes full responsibility for the ways we have been wounded. And He did not just say He allowed it in His sovereignty, He said He caused it. He is the one who personally wounded us. Practically, He used many agents to accomplish our wounding, but each and every wound came at His hands.

***Isaiah 45:5-7***

I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides Me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known Me; that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that there is no one besides Me. I am the Lord, and there is no other, the One forming light and creating darkness, causing well-being and creating calamity [In Hebrew, literally “evil”]. I am the Lord who does all these.

As it says in **Amos 3:6**, if a calamity occurs in a city has not the Lord done it? We must understand that absolutely nothing happens without the Lord's approval (**Lamentations 3:17**). This is amazing, the Lord does not even try to hide the fact that He is the One behind our pain, calamity, and wounding. It's such a wonder that most of us seem to either miss this truth or just ignore it. Honestly, I think we know it innately which is why so many people, at their deepest core, are very angry at God. However, because of religion, we don't like to think of our God, the One who is love, the One who died for our sins, as the person who is responsible for terribly hurting us. How can we win souls if we go around admitting to people that God is the One who hurt them? This does not normally come up in the witnessing training manuals; but it is the God honest truth. Even God throws it right out there and not just once, but over and over again.

The Lord wants you to get in touch with His agenda for your life. He wants you to come to Him and say "What in the world were/are you doing." He wants to engage in that discussion because He wants you to understand His ways. I want to take a look at a passage that fits perfectly in our study of this name.

### **1 Corinthians 11:23-32**

For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this to remember me as often as you

drink it." For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord's death until he comes again. So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup. For if you eat the bread or drink the cup without honoring the body of Christ, you are eating and drinking God's judgment upon yourself. That is why many of you are weak and sick and some have even died. But if we would examine ourselves, we would not be judged by God in this way. Yet when we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned along with the world.

So without question, the Lord is the one who is willing to wound us for so many purposes. In the case of believers, it is often for discipline sake which proves out that we belong to Him and not to this world. **Deuteronomy 8:5** says that God disciplines us like a man disciplines his son. **Hebrews 12:6** says that the Lord disciplines those He loves; and **Hebrews 12:10** says that He disciplines us for our good that we might share in His holiness. His discipline therefore is not because He is mean, but it is for our protection. He wants us to be aware of His reasons and respond accordingly. If we choose to live in the flesh as those who belong to the kingdom of the world, our lives in the flesh will experience the judgment which God regularly brings upon those who make their abode in the world (remember, the Father is always impartially judging, **1 Peter 1:17**). The Lord brings about sickness and even death to get our attention so we might repent and choose to live in His holiness (which He provides) instead of the darkness of our flesh. It was the same in the Old Testament. God often judged Israel as a way to purify the nation and

preserve those who were faithful and to reignite their passion for God and disdain for their sin. For example, it is why He sent Judah off in exile to Babylon (*Jeremiah 23:1-8*). His discipline was for their training (*Jeremiah 31:18-20*).

And for you and me, if it was not for our wounds, we would never have known our need for Jesus. Our generational sin would have just swallowed us up and we would have just done “life” the way so many before us have done. But He hurt us in order that we might get in touch with the reality that we have no control, we are not gods, we cannot determine our destiny, and we need the intervention of the living God if we are to have any chance of truly living. He hurt us in order that we might come to Him and be restored to true life. He hurt us because He loves us so much He needed to wake us up from the dark malaise of the sin which engulfed our lives. He hurt us so we might desire something other than our gross flesh.

And He did not fear the way in which He allowed/caused us to be hurt. He oversaw the entire thing. It was measured out and perfect in order to accomplish its purposes (*Jeremiah 13:24; Hebrews 12:5-12*). And **Jehovah Rapha** was ready and is ready to heal us of all these infirmities. He wounds and He bandages. He strikes and He heals. He is willing to restore our health and heal us from all our diseases. He even heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds.

As for me, I have experienced great wounding and remarkable healing at the hands of my **Jehovah Rapha**. The lack of attunement I experienced as a young child has been remedied and healed by the Lord as He has proven to me how attuned He has been to every little detail of my life. The lack of love and loyalty I received at the hands of so many people who should have given His love and should have been loyal has been remedied by the love and loyalty you have given me. He has painfully broken down my self-defenses thereby making it possible for me to

receive the love you have for me. He has healed me from so much of the generational sin that dominated my life. He healed me from insecurity, anger, doubt, and He has even brought healing in my relationship with my parents and family members as they were themselves willing to receive the Lord's mercy and forgiveness and healing. He healed the wounds of abandonment; and that particular fear just does not control me anymore. He has healed me of the deep seeded justice issues that caused me to always be ready to fight. He is healing me even now from the good child/bad child syndrome and I have found that this dynamic is no longer controlling everything I do. I have known Jesus as my **Jehovah Rapha** and I run to Him for healing and I am constantly seeking Him for healing. He has even healed me from physical issues and has kept me strong.

I remember when I was going through the thick of my storm and the Lord declared in **Lamentations 3** that for a time He was going to be my enemy and His assault on my life was going to be beyond brutal. Not only was everything externally coming against me, He caused me to drink His wormwood, besieged and surround me with anguish and distress, and made me the target of His arrows. It was simply brutal and I will never forget the pain I endured within my soul and within my body; in fact, the thought of my suffering is bitter beyond words. I cried out, "Everything I hoped for from the Lord is lost." During that time I was so confused and barely had a grasp of what He was doing with me and why He was hurting me so badly. Then towards the end of my time of anguish, He told me in **Jeremiah 42:10**, I am sorry about all the punishment I had to bring upon you. And then it clicked. God was not being mean to me and hurting me for no reason; He had to do it. If I was ever going to be the man He needed me to be to fulfill His prophecy over my life from **Isaiah 41** and **42**, then this was necessary. However, I was dug in and my flesh

was powerful and was not going to relent, so He had to go to war against me and He had to go to extremes because it was necessary. He had to become my enemy. And now I am so thankful He did. I have come out of that period of time knowing Jesus by His name. Steve had to die so that Christ may live. And the greatest realization of healing I have ever known came through surrender: His life for mine, His way for my way. That is true healing. I have found the power in His name—**Jehovah Rapha**—that is experienced by faith. For though he wounds, he also bandages.

Let's stop here and we will pick up with **Jehovah Shammah**—the Lord is there.

Let's Pray