

[Faith, Hope & Love_Part5](#)

We are back in our study on the Kingdom of God and our in depth study of our King. And we are studying our King because we have learned that the only three things in this realm of humanity that will remain throughout eternity are faith, hope, and love. We are therefore studying faith, hope, and love in context of the Kingdom of God and our King in whom we are to place our faith—for as we know, without faith it is impossible to please God (**Hebrews 11:6**). This is part 5 of our study and we are deep in understanding how faith is merely the practical application of the facts revealed to us about King. So we are studying those facts as they are revealed in His name. And it is through faith that we come to understand what it means to Biblically believe in or “call on” the name, knowing that *all who call on the name of the Lord will be saved, for there is much power in the name when accompanied by faith*. So far we have studied seven names of God.

1. El Shaddai: Lord God Almighty
2. El Elyon: God Most High
3. Adonai: Master or Lord
4. Yahweh: I Am
5. Jehovah Nissi: My Banner
6. Jehovah Raah: My Shepherd
7. Jehovah Rapha: the Lord my Healer

Our Goal in studying these names is twofold: 1) to know our King so well that we become fully convinced—based on all the facts—that we would be stupid to put our trust in anything or anyone else (especially ourselves); and 2) to likewise be fully convinced that all our decisions, no matter how trivial, must be made based on the reality of the character and nature of our King which has been revealed by the name. His name is to be the filter through which we pass all things. To give you a practical example (after all, I keep saying that faith is the practical application of facts), let's address something I know that many of us struggle with and that is our attitude at work. If our King is your Great Shepherd and always leads you to the best fields with the right food and water that you need at this point in your life, should you be complaining and having a bad attitude about where He has you? If He is your Master, instead of complaining and having a bad attitude, shouldn't you be thankful that He has sent you on assignment to do His will in your job? Shouldn't you be on the lookout for what He wants to accomplish with you and through you? Shouldn't you be doing your job as if you are serving Him directly and consider yourself privileged to be in the service of your King? These are choices you can make. You can compare your attitude against the truth about your King and call on the name of the Lord to help you surrender to His best plans for your life. Besides, since He is your I Am, then you can also be confident that He is using your job as way to provide for your needs. How fabulous is that?

Calling on His name can practically reset so much about how we live. It brings our mind and emotions into alignment with the reality that we live for the Kingdom of God and not for what this world and for what this life can give us. In fact, if we really believe that He is our **El Shaddai** (Lord God Almighty), our **Jehovah Rapha** (Lord Healer), and our **Jehovah Nissi** (our Banner and victory) we would live in such

peace and rest. As I have come to know these names, I have desired to throw away all my own dysfunctional coping mechanisms, fully convinced they are no longer needed. I have settled in my soul, that every wound I have ever received was perfect and necessary to accomplish His purposes in my life. I now understand that each wound has given me the opportunity to know Him as my healer, the one who will set me free from every twisted mindset and attitude I have ever adopted. And since I know His wounds have accomplished their intended purposes, I am not afraid of having to go through it again and again, so I don't need to protect myself any longer. Instead, I can rest and enjoy Him and others. But to live this way with such peace and rest you must 1) know His name, and 2) be willing to call on His name in order that you might 3) know Him by His name. Calling on the name is very, very practical. With that said, let's move on to the next name.

8. **Jehovah Shammah** – the Lord is There. This name comes from a very strange text in the book of *Ezekiel 48:35*. To give you some background, in *Ezekiel 40-48*, the Lord describes a restored temple and the city in which this temple resides. He describes sacrifices and offerings, talks about priests, the land, the gates, and so on. It is a passage that has confused pretty much everyone. No one is sure whether it refers to a third temple, a millennial temple, an eternal temple, or whether it is just a picture of a spiritual truth. Personally, I am getting more and more convinced that it is a picture of the **New Creation** dwelling within our physical bodies. **1 Corinthians 3:16** makes it clear that we are the Temple of God and the Spirit of God dwells in us. It goes on to say: "If any man destroys the Temple of God, God will destroy him, for the Temple of God is holy, and that is what you are." **1 Corinthians 6:19** reiterates that our bodies are the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, one of

the reasons I am starting to believe that **Ezekiel 40-48** quite possibly provides us a picture of the **New Creation** is because **Ezekiel 43:12** says, “And this is the basic law of the Temple: absolute holiness! The entire top of the hill where the Temple is built is holy. Yes, this is the primary law of the Temple.” And, from the perspective of the **New Creation** that dwells within our being (our bodies) we fit that description; we are holy. No one else fits that description. Our **New Creation** has been created in the image of God in righteous and the holiness of truth (**Ephesians 4:24**).

Further, in **Ezekiel 43:5** it says that “the glory of the Lord came into the Temple” which pictures the Holy Spirit indwelling our **New Creation (1 Corinthians 3:16)**. Furthermore, **1 Peter** talks about us being holy priests offering up spiritual sacrifices just like is described through the image of physical sacrifices and offerings in **Ezekiel**. Then **Ezekiel 48:30-35** goes on to describe the city where the Temple is located and it provides measurements for the distance around the entire city: six miles or 18,000 cubits. When you think about a spiritual city and measurements in a prophetic passage, you should instantly want to turn to **Revelation 21** where we are given a description of the New Jerusalem. But in **Revelation 21** we are told that there is no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty is its temple. And we are also given dimensions of that city that are completely different, by magnitudes, than the dimensions of the city in **Ezekiel 48**. So we know that these two passages are not referring to the same thing. Thus, the Ezekiel City and Temple is not a picture of our eternal city.

Interesting, however, is the fact that city in the **Ezekiel 48** just happens to be six miles or 18,000 cubits (six being the number of man; three being the number of

God; and 6x3 (18) being man and God together). And the Lord said in **Ezekiel 43:7**, “Son of man, this is the place of my throne and the place where I will rest my feet. I will remain here forever, living among the people of Israel.” I believe therefore these dimensions (18,000 cubits) communicate to us a spiritual picture of what was once unthinkable: God in man. This also brings to mind **Hebrews 13:5** where the Lord promises us that He will never leave us nor forsake us. In fact, the Greek is emphatic: NO I will not leave you; NO I will not forsake you. The Spirit pulls this statement from the promise He made to Joshua and applies this promise to our lives: **Joshua 1:5**, “Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you.” The living God, in the person of the Holy Spirit, has chosen to dwell within our bodies and He promises that this is the place where He will rest His feet and He will remain here forever and He will not—no how, no way—leave.

And then in **Ezekiel 48:35** we are told that name of the city is “The Lord is There”—**Jehovah Shammah**. The Lord has chosen to dwell, or tabernacle, amongst His people; and we—the **Beloved**—find that personally to be true with the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives who dwells within our **New Creation**. The Lord is There; and He will never leave us nor forsake us. In fact, it is the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit of God in our lives that is the proof that a person belongs to Jesus for “if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him” (**Romans 8:9**). The Lord is There. That name applies to my life, and if the Spirit of God is in you, to your life. This is a very personal and intimate name and one you are to take very personally. Think of how powerful of a reality this is. The Lord is There speaks of God in you. If you have the Spirit of God dwelling in your **New Creation**, you don’t ever have to look for Him, He is there. And then add to it the

fact that He promises that He will never leave us nor forsake us and we should be the most confident assured people in the whole wide world. Fear should not even be named amongst us; why would it?

I want you to dream and imagine the implications of calling on this name. Regardless of what you feel or think, the fact is you are never alone. Apply this fact to your life. **El Elyon**, the Most High God, is with you, so you are safe completely secured by His strength, sovereignty, and supremacy. Regardless of what you feel or think, you don't ever have to be conquered by the enemies of your soul, as **Jehovah Nissi**, your banner and victory, is with you always. If you are fearful that you are blowing it and are in the wrong place because you were disobedient to your Master, you can rest knowing that your' Shepherd, **Jehovah Raah**, is a Great Shepherd who takes His job seriously and has always and will always guide you and lead you to the best pastures for your life. And your Great Shepherd never leaves His sheep; He is always with you and never takes His eyes off of you. All the time He knows where you are, what you are eating and drinking, and you can be assured that He is busy keeping away anyone or thing that might try and destroy you.

The Lord is There. He is in you, He is with you, and you will never find yourself without the strength of the Lord God Almighty. All you have to do is access Him by faith, *for there is much power in the name when it is accompanied by faith*. Think of what it means to live out this name—to call upon this name by faith. When you are at work, the Lord is There. When you are at home, the Lord is There. When you are shopping, the Lord is There. When you are showering, the Lord is There. When you are surfing the net, the Lord is There. When you are dining or entertaining, the Lord is There. When you are exercising, the Lord is There. When you are at the

movies, the Lord is There. When you are out for a drink, the Lord is There. When you are sleeping, the Lord is There. When you are with your spouse or the ones you love, the Lord is There. When you are arguing, the Lord is There. When you are demanding your own way, the Lord is There. When you are indulging your flesh, the Lord is There. When you refuse to love someone and instead choose to love yourself, the Lord is There. When you are lonely and sad, the Lord is There. When you are overcome with doubt, the Lord is There. When you feel weak and afraid, the Lord is There. When you are overcome with hopelessness, the Lord is There. When you just feel all wonky and unsettled, the Lord is There. If you think about it, this is unbelievable. The Lord of heaven and earth, the Lord of Hosts, the One who is above all things and holds all things together, is right there with you because He is in you. Who are you: You are the one of whom it should be said, the Lord is There. In fact, that can and should be the Banner which flies high over your life: The Lord is There.

I dare to imagine what you would do in terms of handling your short-term pleasures/fixes and how quickly your life would change if you really got in touch with this name and believed upon it. Would you really want to eat to cope if the Lord is There? Would you really feel the need to self-protect if the Lord is There? Would you turn to alcohol or other forms of self-medication if the Lord is there? Would you let yourself be consumed with fear if the Lord is There? Would you grope for attention if the Lord is There? Would you seek your fulfillment in a man or a woman if the Lord is There? Would you need to love yourself believing no one else does if the Lord is There? Would you be so worried about tomorrow if the Lord is There? Would you be prideful and refuse to live in submission if the Lord is There?

Would you keep choosing to rebel if the Lord is There? Would you still be passive if the Lord is There? Would you demand your own way and what you want when you want it if the Lord is There?

These are all matters of practical faith for the Lord is There, and that is a matter of indisputable fact. If you are truly one of the **Beloved**, then He is There and “There” is in you. Dwell on this reality. Dwell on this name. Let this name penetrate all your thoughts all the time. Let this name work its way into everything you do—and I mean everything. Your awareness of His presence should fill all your consciousness. Consider this name by faith such that every time you are ready to give an excuse, based on what you feel or what you think, you remember the Lord is There. If the Lord is There then you have full access to all that He is; and given the fact that He is **Yahweh**—your “I Am”—He is everything you need all the time, every time. Do you need a Lord to direct you? He is There. Do you need God to secure you? He is There. Do you need one who is Almighty to fight for you and protect you? He is There. Do you need someone to lead you and guide you through everything? He is There. Do you need strength? He is There. Do you need anything? The I Am is There. Do you need practical shepherding? He is There. Do you need healing? He is There. Do you need victory over the enemies of your soul? He is There. And since He is in you, there is no where you could ever go that would remove you from His presence. He is There and He is not leaving; which is why you should let **Jehovah Nissi** be the Banner over your life because He is always There.

Dwell on this name and I believe your life will change faster than you could ever imagine. I almost want to just stop here and not move from this place until this reality sinks ever so deep into your consciousness. If you are sick of being stuck,

sick of loving your flesh, sick of your selfishness, sick of your pride and rebellion, sick of your lack of submission and so on, just remember, the Lord is There and “There” is in you. As revealed in the name, you have everything you need, all the time. **2 Peter 1:2-4**, “Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.” He is There and you can access all you need from Him for this life and for godliness through the true knowledge of Him—through knowing Him by His name. And please never forget that He is also There for you to always enjoy.

9. **Jehovah Tsidkenu** – the Lord our Righteousness. This name comes from **Jeremiah 23:5-6**. “Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; and He will reign as king and act wisely and do justice and righteousness in the land. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely; and this is His name by which He will be called, 'The Lord our righteousness.'” Other Scriptures which speak to this name are **Isaiah 45:24** which says, “Only in the Lord are righteousness and strength.” **Jeremiah 33:16** says, “In that day Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this will be her name: ‘The Lord Is Our Righteousness.’”

However, **Romans 3:22** makes it clear that this righteousness of God is obtained only through faith in Jesus Christ—for all those who believe. And **Romans 9:30** says that this righteousness cannot be obtained by the works of the hands but only by belief (as we are to properly understand that word to mean more than just an

intellectual ascension or agreement with the truth about God, but a full on commitment to that truth demonstrated in a life where one chooses what they say and do by the truth). This understanding of what it means to believe is explained for us in **James 1:22-25**.

James 1:22-25

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

This is why I have always said that faith, which I believe is synonymous with Biblical belief, is a combination of knowing the truth about God and betting your life on that truth. Anything short of that is not real; it is just religion. In this instance we are told that “the Lord our Righteousness” is the name of our God; and our name is just as beautiful: “the Lord is our Righteousness.” This is the reality of the true **Beloved**, of those who truly believe. Let’s consider the ramifications of this name because it goes to the very core of our being and our struggle with the good child/bad child syndrome which is the seat of our shame and our religious legalism which keeps us bound in our own delusion of goodness. In fact, this is the root from where the works of our hands are derived.

Every single person (whether they call themselves a Christian or not) is gripped with a tension that exists at the depths of their soul between their desire to be good and the reality that they are in fact very bad. The truth is that, without God, each man is completely mercenary, self-seeking through and through, and has never had a selfless thought since he was born. This is the sinful condition which the Bible speaks so much about and has been proven out throughout all the generations of man. It is why every society has created so many laws, rules, and even various religions as a way to control or put a curb on the dark nature of man which left unchecked would be extremely dangerous and destructive. Just to give you an example of man's evil and destructive nature, it is estimated that the world has been at rest and without war for only 8% of the entirety of human history. That means 92% of the time humanity is at war and people are dying at the hands of others. Hardly a picture of human goodness.

But this good child/bad child tension is created because man, from the very beginning with Eve in the garden, has bought into the lie that they can be good—good like God. So man is always on some sort of quest to prove out his goodness in spite of his obvious darkness. This dynamic has manifested itself in so many ways throughout the centuries. Historically we have seen this in the religions of the world, but today this lie of goodness is manifest everywhere you look. It is the heartbeat of modern day liberalism, the environmental movement, the GLBT movement, and it is even embedded deep within our education system. We see this play out a lot in Boulder. You are considered to be a “good person” if you support certain causes propagated by various social/political movements and if you don't agree with them you are essentially vilified. If you refuse to sign one of their petitions, which they aggressively push on you, they get this dumbfounded look in

their face as if they are genuinely confused as to why you would not want to support their cause, and they wonder how you can be so evil.

This dynamic between our desire to be good and our evil nature creates what I have called the good child/bad child syndrome and it is the root of all our shame. We want to be good, it is a shared value all across humanity in every culture; but we can't, for our nature compromises our every attempt to be good. Yet at the same time, we don't want others to know about the darkness that lurks in our soul. We don't even want to admit to ourselves that we do "good" things because of how it makes us feel about ourselves (proving it is inherently selfish). And if "they" (whoever matters to us) knew what was really motivating our choices, we are afraid that we would be vilified, not wanted, not respected, not loved, and not adored. So we hide it, live with the shame of our failure and corruptness, and try and try again to be good. Mark my word, in each and every soul that does not know Jesus by the name **Jehovah Tsidkenu** you will find piles upon piles of shame comprised of all the "would have's," "could have's," and "should have's" of their life—all the ways they wish things had been different.

And this is where our religion comes in. Religion makes the works of our hands—our attempts to be good—seem so acceptable and proper. This is tricky and can be confusing. Mainstream Christianity teaches that man is inherently sinful and needs a savior (which is true). And at some level people accept this truth, which is why so many people raise their hands and "accept Jesus." But based on how people actually live, it is clear that they don't really believe this to be 100% true; it has not ever truly been a matter of faith. They are in touch with their sin enough to intellectually and emotionally know they need a Savior, but so few are in touch with what it really means to be saved. Most are not taught what it means to call upon

the name of the Lord to truly receive salvation. So they pray the sinner's prayer and then go back and live under the same yoke of bondage to which they have always been subjected, and that is the tension between their belief that they can be good and their knowledge that they are in fact evil. There is no freedom in this life; only bondage and shame.

To deal with this dynamic, the institution of religion has created all manner of rules and requirements based on their view of what God wants and the "good" we need to do for God in order to find His favor, blessing, and to make Him proud of us; thereby, giving Him a reason to lift us up, honor us before others, and bless us (which seems to be what most people want). But we find that when we attempt to follow these rules, regulations, and methodologies, they don't get us anywhere with God. And so we try harder. Many of us fail with every single attempt, and so we remain buried in our shame. Logically, we have to find new ways of being "good" to get God to give us what we seek. This is why the religion of Christianity is always going through some new trend, some new movement, some new way for the people who can't seem to abide by the old trends and movements to find new ways to earn favor and blessing with God. But you must understand, these rules, regulations, and methodologies are not spiritual, they are the essence of legalism; and our attempts to meet them amounts to the works of our hands which God completely loathes (**Haggai 2:14-17**). This whole system of religion may come across as sublime and so "good," but it is entirely worthless when it comes to faith (and we know without faith it is impossible to please God).

Furthermore, the rules of religion enable us to create and live in a hierarchy of delusional goodness which again gives us a way to hide the shame and darkness of our soul. If I do "good" and follow the rules and others respect me for it, then I

don't ever truly have to come to grips with my failure and the darkness in my soul. It enables us to stay focused on your failures and the darkness in your soul. This hierarchical delusion is based on the idea that the rules are "good" and to the extent I can keep them better than you, I am good, at least more so than you.

But it is all a lie and the masses are consumed by this lie. However, as we learned in **1 Peter**, only God is genuinely "*agathos*" or good. **Matthew 19:17** and **Mark 10:18** make it clear that He is the only one and there is no other—not even you. We did quite an in-depth study on this truth. He is good and we are not; and there is no way we can be good for our humanity has been thoroughly corrupted. In fact, there is none righteous not even one (**Romans 3:10-18**). Thus, we need His goodness through and through, not just for our imaginings of obtaining "salvation," but to truly be saved, for only He is truly righteous.

Therefore, to practically know Jesus by His name, we have to be willing to come to grips with our absolute inability to be good and by faith relinquish all our own attempts at finding favor and blessing with God and right-standing with men though what we do. We must let go of all our "would have's," "could have's," and "should have's" of our life, and never return to their lies. Shame is a product of a lie that we shouldn't be bad because we could be good; and we must hate this lie so much that we are willing to let it go and let the good child/bad child syndrome be ripped from our soul. We must reject all aspects of religion that attempt to equate doing good with being good. His righteousness has been given to us in exchange for our corrupt nature; therefore, we have no reason to try and be good or to try and hide the fact that we are not good. This is why the Bible clearly says in **Romans 9:33** that he who believes and continues to believe (*present active participle*) in Him (Jesus) will not be put to shame. And remember, when the Bible

says “believe” it is talking about a full on commitment to the truth demonstrated in a life where one chooses what they say and do by the truth. Therefore to live this truth we must give up our desire to have God be proud of us and to earn our blessing. We must let our pride go, drain the deep pools of shame, and rest in the fact that He is our righteousness and because of Him we are good.

What do we get by giving up our system of shame and all our attempts at being good? God gives us complete freedom to replace our shame. When you can come to grips with the level of your darkness and your complete need for all of Jesus in every single part of your life and not just part of Jesus, then oddly enough the embarrassment and shame goes away and thankfulness takes its place. **Galatians 5:1** says, “It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.” Personally, I am so thankful I don’t have to be yoked anymore to the slavery of the good child/bad child syndrome. I am so thankful I can rest in the fact that He, and only He, is my righteousness. And this is where **Jehovah Tsidkenu** fits with **Jehova Shammah**, the Lord is There. He is righteous and since He is There, and “There” is in the Temple of my soul, then I have His righteousness and there is nothing I need to do (much less can do) to earn it and experience it except to believe.

With that said, I want you to understand that the Lord’s righteousness is a lot like God’s *agape* love. We have His love in our souls and we are the objects of His great love and affection, but to practically experience His *agape* love in our day-in-and-day-out lives, we have to let Jesus take more and more possession of our soul. We must let Him fill us. God is love; therefore, the more we let Him rule in our lives and literally possess our being, the more we will truly know—experientially—His love. And we know that for Him to possess more of our soul we have to be willing

to let Him judge our flesh, put it to death, and thoroughly burn off from our lives the areas of our wrong belief and unbelief.

That is the same for His righteousness. If you have the ***New Creation*** (if you have truly been born-again), then you have His righteousness because He is There in the person of the Holy Spirit. He dwells within your being. That is a fact; and it is His righteousness that is present in your life that grants you acceptance, favor, and blessing with God. In fact, His righteousness is the only reason why you can call God your Father. But to practically experience His righteousness in in your day-in-and-day-out life, you have to let Jesus take more and more possession of your soul. God is righteous; therefore, the more you let Him rule in your life and literally possess your being, the more you will truly know—experientially—His righteousness and the more you will naturally experience His blessing and favor. All the wonderful things you desire, love, blessing, favor, to be good and holy, come with His presence. It is all a part of His personhood and is not truly known apart from His name. But you must decide what you love: your goodness or His righteousness.

Jehovah Tsidkenu – Jehova Shammah: He is our righteousness and He is There in our soul and we are His righteousness. Know Him by His name so you can enjoy your name.

Let's Pray