

[Faith, Hope & Love\\_Part16](#)

In our study on the names of God, **Jehovah Jireh** has been one intense name. Our foundation verse for this name came from **2 Peter 1:2-3**, "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." Jesus is our Provider and has already granted to us everything we need; now it is matter of our appropriating what He has provided.

So far in our study, we have focused on how Jesus has been our provider for all the enemies in our soul: fear, pride, goodness, failure and shame, insecurity, selfishness, envy, the victim mentality, and even our hatred. The most amazing thing to me is how this name has completely boxed us in; there is nowhere for us to hide. If we turn this way, we are confronted with our pride, if we turn that way, it is our selfishness, if we glance over our shoulders we see our fear, if we look up we see our goodness, if we look down we see our failure and shame, if we look inward we see our insecurity, and if we look at others we see our envy. The point, I believe, has not been to beat us over the head and make us feel stupid, but for us to finally accept the truth of our human condition: we need Jesus for 100% of our lives and not just for a part. We need **Jehovah Jireh** for both life and for godliness. We need a complete replacement of His life for ours. We need Him to guide our battles with these enemies, we need Him to rout them out, we need His strength to cut off their heads, and we need Him to backfill those holes where they were hiding, and we need Him to take up full residency in the territory that they once possessed. That is the point of this name, He is our complete provision and He

wants us to simply agree with Him and no longer choose to indulge these enemies and their false demonic gods and their associated coping mechanisms.

Now before we leave this name, I want us to focus on some passages that confirm that He is not only our Provision for godliness and the elimination of the enemies in our soul, but also for the practical aspects of our life—those areas which tend to cause us a lot of our worry and anxiety which come from living and traveling through this world. These practical areas touch on the issues of our relationships: our family, friends, and current or prospective romantic entanglements; our health, money, what we do in this world as far as work, school, and fun; etc. You know, most everything that we obsess on and which preoccupies our mind. The point is that Jesus is not just our spiritual provision for this life and godliness but also our practical provision because He is the **Lord** of our lives.

Back in our study in **1 Peter**, I had said that if we could just bet our lives on three foundational truths, we would live in peace, rest, and contentment for these three truths encompass and embrace the totality of our practical and spiritual experience in this life and the life to come: our entire past, present, and our future. The three truths are: 1) we are aliens who do not belong to this world and therefore must not find our identity, our contentment, nor our purpose in the things of this world—we have been chosen out of this world and belong exclusively to Jesus; 2) Jesus is the **Lord** and is by definition of that name in control, will be in control, and has always been in control of every single detail of our lives, without exception; and 3) God is in fact good; thus everything that He directs and permits for our lives in the past, present, and the future is unqualifiedly good. I am convinced that our ability to live in peace and rest during our time on this earth hinges on these three truths. If you

were to arm yourself with these three truths and *by faith* bet your lives on these three truths (emotionally, mentally, spiritually, and practically), you would come to rest in all that God says about who He is, who we are in Him, and how and why He works in our lives.

These three truths also set forth the framework for our understanding that Jesus is not just our spiritual provision for this life and for godliness, but also our practical provision because He is the **Lord** of our lives and is in control of everything. And, since He is good, we can rest. Thus, I believe that we need to spend some time digging through the scriptures to understand this aspect of Jesus being the **Lord**—the absolute **Lord**—of our lives. I want this study to be a huge rock upon which you are willing to go forth and build your life. This is some meaty truth that again, if you let it, will absolutely transform your heart, mind, and your soul (oh, and eventually your emotions will catch up as well).

As a foundational verse, I want us to turn to **Psalm 37:23-24** which says, “The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the Lord holds them by the hand.” The actual Hebrew says it a bit different: By the Lord, the steps of a man are ordered, established or fixed. He (the Lord) delights in his ways or in the course of his life that He (the Lord) established. I am sure the reason “man” was translated as “godly” is because **37:24**. I am sure the translators were trying to differentiate between just any man and a man who is chosen of God and will be upheld by the Lord’s hand.

The point I want to make is that our God is “**Lord**” not just in name or in some theological or ethereal concept; rather, He has personally ordered, established or

fixed each and every step of your life. I must make this point because I believe that very, very, very, very, very few people who call themselves Christians actually believe this to be true. Oh sure they will sing the songs and they will quote you the right theology, but if you practically look at the worry, anxiety, fear, and level of control they exert in trying to manage the details of their own life, it is clear they do not believe this to be true. I know that for years I lived this way until Jesus tore apart my life and I had to come face to face with the truth. And if it was not for the storm and destruction He ushered into my life, I doubt I would have every truly rested in the truth that He is the Lord.

In fact, one of the reasons people have adopted so many coping mechanisms to survive this life is because they do not actually believe that Jesus is Lord; and, if they concede to His Lordship, they don't believe He is good. So in their own ridiculous wisdom they decide that they have to be their own lord and their own provision for this life—their own “**Jehovah Jireh**.” In so doing they act as if some other force or forces, including their own will, determine both the quality and content of their lives and that they can have some influence over those forces. It is all quite silly and foolish really; but it is how most so called “Christians” live. In fact, I will go so far as to say that the spiritualization of what it means that “Jesus is Lord” is one of the prominent marks of the apostate church (number 540) which holds to the concept of “Jesus as Lord” in order to maintain the proper constructs of the religion, but in practical reality they do not truly believe.

In the Old Testament, the name of God which is translated “Lord” is **Yahweh** or **Jehovah**, which as we have learned in Part 3 of faith, hope, and love is used 6,828 times in the Old Testament. What you may not know however is that this is God's

personal name by which He has chosen to relate specifically to His chosen people.

***Exodus 3:13-15***

But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they will ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what should I tell them?" God replied to Moses, "I Am Who I Am. Say this to the people of Israel: I Am has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: **Yahweh**, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you. This is my eternal name, my name to remember for all generations.

For those of you who are confused, **Yahweh** is often rendered in your Bible as **Jehovah**. This came from the fact that people thought that "**Yahweh**" was too sacred to speak—even though God said it was His personal name and gave it to them for all generations—so in their religious ridiculousness they came up with an allowable nick-name, so to speak; hence, **Jehovah**. So when you come across **Jehovah** you know it is a derivation of the name **Yahweh**. The first appearance of this name comes in **Genesis 2:4** when it is referenced that the Lord (**Yahweh**) God (**Elohim**) created the heavens and the earth. It also seems clear that Adam knew this name because his son Seth and his grandson Enosh both began to call on the name **Jehovah** (**Genesis 4:26**). But what I find fascinating is that even though the Lord revealed this name to these boys, He did not reveal this name to either Abraham, Isaac, or Jacob. Rather, he revealed to them a different name (**El**

**Shaddai**), not His personal name. I am filling in the blanks here, but it seems that sometime in the dark corruption of early humanity, the name **Yahweh** got lost as people defiled themselves with darkness; and this name was not again revealed until God explained His name to Moses.

The Lord specifically wanted His chosen people to know His *personal* name because He personally was going to be both their salvation and their entire provision for everything they would need. He would be their redeemer; their warrior; their guide from Egypt to the Promised Land; their protection; their living manna; the rock that would follow them through the wilderness and the water that refreshed their parched and weary souls; their healer; and the one who would keep their shoes and clothes intact and their teeth from rotting. He wanted them to know that He was and would always be their “I Am.” He told Moses to say to the people of Israel that “the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.” He wanted them to know that He was the same God who made those marvelous and wonderful promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but He wanted His chosen ones to personally know Him.

### ***Exodus 6:2-8***

And God said to Moses, "I am **Yahweh**—'the Lord.' I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as **El-Shaddai**—'God Almighty'—but I did not reveal my name, **Yahweh**, to them. And I reaffirmed my covenant with them. Under its terms, I promised to give them the land of Canaan, where they were living as foreigners. You can be sure that I have heard the groans of the people of Israel, who are now slaves to the Egyptians. And I am well aware of my covenant with them.

"Therefore, say to the people of Israel: 'I am the Lord. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment. I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God who has freed you from your oppression in Egypt. I will bring you into the land I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I will give it to you as your very own possession. I am the Lord!'"

The reason, I believe, God revealed Himself to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as God Almighty is that He had made promises to them that would not be fulfilled in their lives but in the lives of their children. He promised to give them the land of Canaan. Thus, He wanted Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to know that He was God Almighty the one who was big enough and powerful enough to fulfill every single promise that He had made. It seems that God's revelation of Himself—His name—is tied closely to the type of relationship He is going to have with each people group. And sure enough, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob bet their lives on the name God Almighty. They chose to live *by faith* and they actively believed that God Almighty was going to fulfill all His promises.

But when it came to His chosen people the Israelites, He wanted them to know His personal name because those promises He had made to their ancestors was going to be personally fulfilled in their lives. He would be their "I AM" and their **Jehovah Jireh** for everything they would need for this life and for godliness. Again, it was all very personal and quite beautiful when you consider that He is God Almighty. The Lord wanted His chosen ones to be assured that God Almighty was

the Lord who was in absolute control of every single detail of their past, present, and their future. He wanted them to be confident that their lives were in His hands and His hands alone. It did not matter that Egypt had a death grip around their community, it did not matter that Pharaoh was ruler of the world; the **Lord** would arrange every single detail of their redemption and as God Almighty the **Lord** would effect their redemption according to His plan. Let me explain this a bit further.

**Yahweh** is believed to have been derived from an old Semitic root (*hawah*) meaning to be or to become. We have translated this name as “I Am” or said another way, the God who exists (to be) and the God whose very existence effects His will (to become). To be and to become—both of these aspects are captured in the name **Yahweh**—who He is and how His very existence penetrates every aspect of our lives. When we first covered this name, we intentionally focused on the fact that **Yahweh** is the God who exists—our “I AM.” Accordingly, He is not just our **Jehovah Jireh**—the one who provides for us, but He Himself is the answer, the solution, the very embodiment of that provision. He provides Himself for every single need we have. We discovered this as we studied the enemies in our soul. With each enemy, we found that an aspect of God Himself is our provision. And when we dig down deep into our soul and make the choice to bet our lives on that aspect of His character and nature, we find that, *by faith*, we have everything we need to conquer that enemy and to fill the territory left behind by that enemy.

Tonight we are going to focus on the way in which our “I Am” (to become) is the God whose very existence effects what will be. Hence, we have the use of **Yahweh** or **Jehovah** (translated as “**Lord**”) 6,828 times in the Old Testament. He is Lord because He controls all things and is in control of all things. Every single detail of



our lives plays out exactly as He has causes them to be. In the New Testament, the Greek word for “Lord” is used 751 times of which 103 of them refer to the “Lord Jesus.” Jesus personally claimed this title (**Matthew 7:21-22; 12:8; Mark 5:19; 11:3; Luke 20:42; John 13:13**); and He also attributed it to His Father in Heaven (**Matthew 11:25; 4:7; Luke 10:21; 20:42**). Jesus even evoked the same Old Testament name when He said, “Before Abraham was, I Am” (**John 8:58**).

The Bible is clear. Jesus is **Yahweh** or **Jehovah**—He is everything we need for this life and for godliness. He is our provision. And, as with Moses and the Israelites, this is a very personal reality. **Psalm 37:23** makes it clear that the Lord effects His will in the life of His chosen, for He is the one who establishes their steps. **1 Samuel 2:9** reiterates this truth, “He keeps the feet of His godly ones,” which is a poetic way of saying that He will direct and protect each step they make. **Psalm 66:9** says, “Our lives are in his hands, and he keeps our feet from stumbling.” In other words, each step will be placed in the exact location He determines and He will not allow us to stumble outside of it. Besides, it is clear from **Psalm 139** that all the details of our lives, every single day, were recorded in His book before we were even born. As our **Lord**, He established it all. As David said, “Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is too high, I cannot attain to it” (**Psalm 139:6**).

If you think there is some limitation to His Lordship, think again. Jesus is the Lord: of the earth (**Joshua 3:11**)—of the whole earth (**Psalm 97:5**); of the hosts (**1 Samuel 1:3**)—which would include both good and bad angels; of lords (**Psalm 136:3; Revelation 17:14**)—all the fiefdoms of both men and demons; of kings (**Daniel 2:47**); of heaven (**Daniel 5:23**); of the harvest (**Matthew 9:38**)—all the chosen who will be gathered to Him; of heaven and earth (**Matthew 11:25**); of the Sabbath

(**Matthew 12:8**); of all (**Acts 10:36**)—every single person and every single aspect of creation; of glory (**1 Corinthians 2:8**); and of peace (**2 Thessalonians 3:16**). So I think we can confidently say without a doubt that He is the Lord of our lives; and there is nothing and no one that escapes His rule, control, and direction.

Understand, the Lord God has pre-ordained and established each and every part of our lives (this would include our past, our present, and our future). He left nothing to chance, nothing to fate, and nothing to the will of the enemy. He only leaves things subject to our choice (this brings up that curious but unmistakable intersection between God's sovereignty and our freedom to choose); but even then, as the **El Shaddai**, the Lord God Almighty who sits outside of time, He has foreseen our choices and set things into motion to work with and around our choices. Which is why we know that the life of the chosen has been predestined. Still, who we are in this life is ultimately bound by the choices of our soul; choices He knew we would make before He ever created us. But even in and through our choices, all things play out according to His will and what He has determined.

As it says in **Isaiah 14:27**, "The Lord of Heaven's Armies has spoken—who can change his plans? When his hand is raised, who can stop him?" The answer, no one, not even you. He is Lord and He will call on all His heavenly armies (both good and evil) to effect His purposes in your life. In this you can rest. In **Jeremiah 49:19** the Lord unequivocally speaks of His Lordship and control of all things. He says, "For who is like me, and who can challenge me? What ruler can oppose my will?" Again, the implication is no one, not even you.

Now, before your brain gets all confused; nothing I have said takes away from your personal responsibility in your relationship with God. You cannot thwart His

will; that is an unbendable truism. However, He will honor and respect your choices which come from the sick and twisted desires of your soul. That is why He is the **Jehvoah Jireh** even for your desires. If you delight yourself in Him, commit your way to Him, and trust in Him (in other words, dig down deep in your soul and make the choice to submit to His ways—the Hebrew literally means to be soft and pliable), He will root out your old sick and twisted desires and give you the desires of your heart—He will place within your heart His desires; He will do it (***Psalm 37:4***).

Again, nothing in the life of the chosen is random. That is why in ***Ephesians 1:10-11***, the Spirit boldly proclaims: “In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been *predestined* according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.” This is another way of saying that the steps of the chosen have been fixed and ordered by **Yahweh** to ensure His purposes are accomplished. This is why Paul was able to say about the Philippians: “I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ” (***Philippians 1:6***). And then add to it the fact that He delights in these pre-ordained steps and this name **Yahweh** or **Jehovah** is intended to bring you great comfort and peace as you travail through this life. As such, His name is our very provision for worry, fear, and anxiety, for all things will work all things out according to the counsel of His will. And we know that His will is good, pleasing, and perfect (***Romans 12:2***) for He causes all things to work out for the *good* to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purposes (***Romans 8:28***). And since He alone is good (***Matthew 19:17; Mark 10:18; Luke 18:19***), He is our very purpose, He is our very provision; which is why ***Romans 8:29*** clearly states that our good is to be conformed into the image of the Son. This is all so mind blowing—I love it. ***Nahum***

**1:7** confirms, “The Lord is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in him.” Thus, we can rest and not strive so much when it comes to the details of our lives. He is good and He has Himself purposed as our provision for every part of our lives.

The “Lord” or “**Yahweh**” is the personal name by which Jesus wants to be known. As He says, “It is my eternal name, my name to remember for all generations.” Thus, it is incumbent upon us to know His name, to call on His name, and to let His name be to us the rock upon which we rest. As Jesus said:

***Luke 6:46-49***

Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who has heard and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great.

If He is Lord, your Lord, then live as if it is true. Live as if each and every detail of your life (past, present, and future) has been according to His good, pleasing, and perfect will. This is your rock upon which you must build your life. Merely proclaiming that “Jesus is Lord” is not the same as believing or calling upon the

name. Understand what the Spirit means when He says in **Romans 10:13**, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." Bet your life on the name **Yahweh**; and no matter what He has prescribed for your life you will not be shaken for your life will be established upon the Rock. But if you choose to live as if He has not personally architected every single detail in your life (or as if He is not good), then when things in this life come against you immediately the house you have built your life upon will collapse, and the ruin of that house will be great. To some extent we have all experienced this, but some of you are living in ruin right now; and it is so unnecessary.

Understand the glory and beauty of the truth. Jesus is **Yahweh**; He is the Lord. And practically, for your mental and emotional stability, become pliable and supple to this truth; let it be your truth. And because this name is so personal, this name **Yahweh** should evoke within your soul confidence, trust, peace, and a deep, deep security. He has it all under control, every little detail, all the time, for He is Lord of all! **Jehovah Jireh** has provided Himself, **Yahweh**—the Lord—the one who has and who always will carefully manage every aspect of your life. Bet your life upon this name and know His peace and rest. This is the foundation of truth that must be in place—the rock upon which you must build—if you are ever going to understand and trust that He is your **Jehovah Jireh** not just for your spiritual provision against the enemies in your soul, but also for the practical aspects of this life.

With that said, let's internalize this name; let it sink in. Do you need to worry and stress about having the man or woman of your dreams? Trust that as your Lord He has it under control—including the timing of it all. If your marriage is driving you crazy, you can trust that He has ordained each moment to conform you into the

image of the Son. Isn't that what this life is all about anyways? Rest in this truth and take nothing into your own hands. What about all your anger over what **Yahweh** has chosen for your life? Is it going to get you anywhere? He is the one who sees outside of time, the beginning from the end; thus, He knows exactly what was needed to get you to come to Him and exactly what is needed to get you to surrender to Him. Rest in this, don't fight it! All that He prescribed for your life, from the perspective of the Kingdom of God, is good, pleasing, and perfect. The only reason you would resent it is if you are one who is beholden to the kingdom of this world. What about your future, what about school, work, children, or anything like that. **Yahweh** is your provision, He knows everything already and He will ensure that His will is proven out. So rest, don't stress, let Him do His thing in His timing.

**Yahweh** even chose you out from all these different places and has given you an incredible family. He fulfilled the promise He made as **Jehovah Jireh** in **Luke 18:29-30** when He said, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life." **Yahweh** ordained that you would be part of this wonderful family and **Jehovah Jireh** provided it. He has also promised that if you seek first the Kingdom of God, He will ensure that you are provided with food, clothes, and so on (**Matthew 6:25-34; Proverbs 10:3; Philippians 4:19**). He will provide what you need to carry out the work to which He has called you. It may not always feel that way, but He has provided it and **Yahweh** has planned for it, predestined it, and moves time and space to ensure you have it. **Jehovah Jireh** even promised in **Malachi 3:10** that if you offer up your full tithe and offerings to **Yahweh**, He will "open for you the

windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.”

**Jehovah Jireh** has also ensured that you will not be tempted beyond your ability to handle it (**1 Corinthians 10:13**). **Yahweh** leads you before the temptation, through the temptation, and after it; whether you handle it right or not. Your Lord set it all up perfectly for you to have the opportunity to choose to live *by faith*. Faith—actively believing in His name—is always your way out of temptation. And when you are weak, He is **El Sali**, the God of your strength. And you can count on that because **Jehovah Jireh** has poured out His grace on you and promises that His grace is sufficient for you to carry you through any trial or affliction which **Yahweh** ordains (**2 Corinthians 12:9**).

And to close, we know that without faith it is impossible to please God (**Hebrews 11:6**). But what does that mean? The second part of **Hebrews 11:6** declares that anyone who comes to God must believe that He is (**Yahweh**) and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. They must believe and bet their lives upon the fact that He is the “to be” and the one whose very existence causes all “to become”

Jesus truly is our **Jehovah Jireh**—our great provider for everything we need for life and for godliness, including the minutia. Every little detail comes from **Yahweh** our God who is! So let’s settle with this truth so we can live in His rest and peace.

Let’s Pray