

[Faith, Hope & Love_Part19](#)

In our study on the Kingdom of God, we learned in **1 Corinthians 3:13** that out of all the gifts and privileges that God gives us to navigate this life, there are only three things that will remain throughout eternity: faith, hope, and love—these are the building blocks of the Kingdom of God which are laid on the foundation of truth. We have been studying the first building block, faith, and are in part 19 in our study. As we know, without Biblical faith it is impossible to please God (**Hebrews 11:6**) and true Biblical faith is comprised of a combination of belief, action, and truth. All three are necessary for Biblical faith; you must actively believe the truth. If you believe a lie or any variation of the truth, you may be entirely convicted in it, but it will not produce in your life the fruit which the Bible says can be yours. For instance, many of you have placed your “faith” in the lies spoken to you by your *Old Sinful Nature* which says, for instance, that you should live in shame, guilt, condemnation, and defeat. Sadly, you believe this lie with all your heart, mind, soul, and strength and the corresponding fruit from your life is apparent. You live as a captive to this lie and death is all you experience. So if you believe a lie or any variation of the truth, you will know death—it is inevitable. Thus, truth is a necessary component of Biblical faith.

And if you know the truth and believe the truth but are not willing to take action and go to war against the lies spoken by your *Old Sinful Nature* and reject them from your heart, mind, soul, and body, then your knowledge and belief will not produce in your life the fruit which the Bible says can be yours. Again, you will know only death; but in this instance you will be more than frustrated because you expect that your “belief” should produce life and when it doesn’t you blame God and act

as if the Word of God just does not work for you. You let your experiences with the truth, rather than the truth itself, define your reality.

To experience true Biblical faith, and all the blessing and promises that come with it, you must know and believe the truth revealed in the Word of God and you must bet your life on it; it is a full-on commitment. This means you no longer make decisions by what you feel or think as dictated by your circumstances; rather, you base your day-in-and-day-out decisions on the Word of God. You must *actively believe the truth*.

Now the tricky part of faith is this issue of truth. Remember, any variation on the truth will get you into trouble and eventually lead to death in one way, shape, or form; it is guaranteed. This is why we have focused our study on learning about the one who is truth. We are told that John the Baptist testified to the truth when he spoke of Jesus (**John 5:33**) and in **John 14:6**, Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Hence, we must actively believe in Jesus to experience true Biblical faith. Furthermore, **John 1:1-18** states that Jesus is the Word which came down from the Father. So when Jesus prayed in **John 17:17**, "Sanctify them in the truth; Your Word is truth," He was asking the Father to set us apart such that our very lives are defined by Jesus. Thus, we have been on a long pursuit of learning about Jesus as He has revealed Himself to us in the various names which the Lord uses in His interactions with mankind.

The name of God reveals all that we need to know about His character and nature. His name provides for us the plumb line, so to speak, that defines what it is that we must "actively believe." As we have learned, this is not a casual venture and this is not about an intellectual understanding of His name (belief alone); but

about a full on agreement with His name in our heart, mind, soul, and strength (it is active).

If you remember, God specifically told us on 08/13/2013: **“Anyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved. Know what this means. Behold, He comes!”** Accordingly, we have been studying His name to know what it means to “call upon the name of the Lord.” This study has been both unnerving and absolutely glorious all at the same time. It has been unnerving because His name touches on every imaginable part of our soul, and it forces us to confront the reality of our faith. Do we truly believe or do we just say we believe? Those who bet their lives on His character and nature, as revealed in His name, truly experience His salvation, for He becomes to them everything that He promised. He literally delivers (or saves) them from: the domination and control that has been wielded over their lives by their *Old Sinful Nature*; their generational sin; their crazy emotions that tend to follow their *Old Sinful Nature’s* lead; the demonic spirits that they have worshiped and served; the enemies which reside deep in their soul that oppose God; and, from the addictions and cravings in their physical body that are enticed by the demands of their *Old Sinful Nature* and their feelings.

As we have learned, to experience this salvation, we have to walk the pathway of death and choose to let go of all in our life that does not derive from God; and death is hard and painful. But the glorious part is what comes after death: we get to live which means before long we will know what it means to love with God’s *agape* love. You simply have to die to live and you have to live to love. And when it comes to faith, hope and love, the greatest of these is love; which is why the Spirit says, “what matters is faith expressing itself in love” (***Galatians 5:6***).

We must therefore let our old religious notions of what it means to be “saved” be overwritten with the reality of what Jesus’ name can produce in our lives and will produce in our lives when we choose to live by faith in the name. And do not forget that He concluded His exhortation to us with: “**Behold, He comes!**” This is the Lord’s way of letting us know that the time is short and His return is more near than we could ever imagine. Thus, He wants us all to do this for real. He wants you to be one of those who live like you actually know the Lord God Almighty and not just know about Him.

In that vein, I want to make note of the fact that names reveal to us the very personhood of Jesus. And being the truth, He does not change; He is the same yesterday, today, and forever (*Hebrews 13:8*). Therefore, if your experience with the truth does not match the promises and declarations that accompany the name, it does not mean that the “truth” needs to be modified to fit your experiences. Your experiences do not, and never will, define the truth. In such an instance, your personal experience with the truth has everything to do with the fact that you have errantly believed and bet your life on a deviation from the truth, for Jesus never changes. With that said, let’s talk about how your personal experience with the truth can be completely consistent with the truth. We have talked about the fight of faith and have explored what it means to engage the lies with the truth, but let’s look at how the Spirit describes this battle. The first thing we understand is that our battle is not against those in our lives who have wounded and damaged us, or are even now coming against us. But it is against the spirits of wickedness whom the Lord of Hosts, **Jehovah Sabaoth**, sent to use those people who hurt us.

Ephesians 6:12

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

And since our battle is against unseen, but very powerful, beings, we have to understand both the battlefield upon which we fight and know how we are to fight. The Spirit faithfully gives us instruction. The first part of this instruction is about our defense and the second part is about our offense. As to our defense, we must ensure that we are protected from that which we cannot see. As we read the rest of the passage in ***Ephesians 6***, I will add some commentary based on the Greek tense of the verbs in order that we might understand the Spirit's instructions.

Ephesians 6:13-17

Therefore, take up the full armor of God [this is not a one-time event, it is to be how you live], so that you will be able [and you are enabled by God] to resist [to "resist" is how you are to live—it is to be your life and not a sporadic event that takes place when you "feel" the evil around you] in the evil day, and having done everything [once again, this is to be your life; you are to dig down deep into your soul and make the choice to do everything and keep "doing everything" over, and over again], to stand firm [to stand firm is to be how you live; you are never to be found wavering]. Stand firm therefore [do it; live this way], HAVING GIRDED [you are to dig down deep in your soul and make the choice to gird yourself as

the practical experience of your life, and then keep doing it over and over again] YOUR LOINS WITH **TRUTH** [with the Name of the one who is truth], and HAVING [dug down deep into your soul and made the choice to] PUT ON [and keep putting on over and over again] THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS [betting your life on **Jehovah Tsidkenu**], and having [dug down deep into your soul and made the choice to] shod YOUR FEET [and to keep doing it over and over again] WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE [betting your life on **Yahweh Shalom** and the fact that you always have peace with God]; in addition to all, taking up [having dug down deep into your soul, make the choice and continue to make this choice to take up] the shield of faith with which you will be able [it is a decision that you must dig down deep into your soul and make and it is a statement of fact that you will have victory if you make this choice] to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one [victory over the evil one is to describe your life, from beginning to end]. And take [dig down deep into your soul and make the choice to obey this command] THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God [which is another description of Jesus who is the living word of God].

As you can see, our battle is very, very active. With the exception of the commands to stand firm and to take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, practically everything else was something we dig down deep into our soul and make the choice to do and to keep on doing (*aorist middle participle*). Take up the full armor of God. Stand firm HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, and having shod YOUR

FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE. Taking up the shield of faith. And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit. This is to be how you live. Here is the spiritual reality. You are a warrior in a battle over your life and the lives of your brothers and sisters; and as a warrior you must always be prepared. You are not just a warrior when we gather for prayer, but being a warrior and living like a warrior is to define your life. But your effectiveness as a warrior totally depends upon your faith: your willingness to bet your life on the name by making and continuing to make these choices to take, to stand, to gird, to put on, and to shod. And our defensive gear is the truth, the Lord's righteousness, our peace with God, our faith, our promised inheritance, and the word of God. This equipment will protect us from any attack of the enemy.

Now let's look at the offensive part of our fight. Again, I will provide commentary as we go. This passage is part of Paul's defense of his life and ministry which he made to those in Corinth who thought he was a shyster.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

For though we [now] walk in the flesh, we are not waging war [we dig down deep into our soul and make the choice, in our now, to not war] according to the flesh [and that is a statement of fact]. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy [and we keep destroying] arguments and every lofty [thought, idea, attitude, feeling, or] thing [including demonic spirits] raised against the true knowledge of God, and take every thought captive [and keep taking every thought captive] to the obedience of Christ [this is a noun and not a verb; the reality of what Jehovah Tsidkenu has

done for us], being ready [“ready” is an adjective that describes our now as we are always ready] to punish [it is how we live day-in-and-day-out—we punish] every disobedience, when your obedience is complete [as God completes this work in you].

Defensively, we clothe ourselves with the armor God has provided. Offensively, however, we go after and aggressively cast down every thought, idea, attitude, and demonic spirit that raises itself up in arrogance against the true knowledge of God. This is why I said that any deviation of the truth will eventually kill you. In this war, the battlefield is your mind and that is where the clash of flesh, demons, and the Spirit takes place. Our job is to destroy the lies and we do that by taking each thought, idea, attitude, feeling, or whispering from a demonic spirit and we hold it captive in comparison to the truth—to the obedience of Christ. And if it in any way deviates from what we have learned to be true about Jesus, who we are to Him and what He has done for us and in us (our innate obedience), as He has revealed it in the name, we are to cast it down, destroy it, and have nothing to do with it.

Every disobedient thought, idea, attitude, feeling, or whispering from a demonic spirit must be taken captive and destroyed; and we must continue to take it captive over and over again. This is a war to the death; this is not a sport. There are no points given to the one with the most blows. This is about life and death; freedom and captivity. Therefore, before we move on and study the building block of “hope,” let’s do a final review of the name and all that the name communicates and implies in order that we might be fully equipped to battle the lie. For without this truth, without the truth, we will be both defenseless and unable to muster up

any sort of offense. I know that some of you feel this way every single day. But that is because you have either not understood the nature of this war or you have not been willing to go to war with the truth (which I believe is the actual issue). So as we go through this review, ask yourself, “is it worth it to continue to live in emptiness, loneliness, impotency, and death, or is it better to risk it all on the name?” Remember, we war with the true knowledge of Jesus Christ; therefore, let’s learn who He is as He has revealed Himself in His name.

The first name we studied was **El Shaddai**—the Lord God Almighty (or as it says in **Revelation 19:6**, the Lord **our** God Almighty). He is the Lord, the one who is in control of all things all the time. Nothing escapes His rule and His mastery. Even the enemy works for Him. He is God, the one who sits outside of time and knows all things before they ever happen; thus, He can arrange all things and has arranged all things; and they happen just as He determines. And being Almighty, no one can thwart His will. After all, He is **El Elyon**, the Most High God—the one who is ultimate in strength, completely sovereign, and unquestionably supreme. No one and nothing can ever exalt themselves above Jesus, He is unequaled. He is also my **Adonai**, my personal Lord and Master; He has personal ownership of me. I am not only subject to His rule, I have voluntarily subjected myself to His rule. Being my **Adonai**, He is the only one with the right to determine the affairs of my life; and I get the absolute privilege of belonging to Him and surrendering my being to Him.

Then of course, we learned about the great name **Yahweh**. This is the personal name by which God wants to be known by His own people. He did not reveal it to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but He revealed it to us; for all time **Yahweh** is His name. The name **Yahweh** declares that He is our “I Am” our provision for everything we

need for this life and for godliness. He is it. There is no other place for us to look and no other place for us to go. Everything else is empty and impotent. Only our “I Am” is sufficient to meet all our needs; and, He Himself is our provision. **Yahweh** also means that He has caused to be everything in our lives; every experience has come at the hands and the plans of **Yahweh**. And we have learned that **Yahweh** is good (the only one who is) and always deals with us on the basis of His love for us. Thus, we can rest in knowing that **Yahweh** has always determined every single thing in our lives and that all of it, the pain and the joy, has been about our learning to know and experience the fullness and depth of His love, which is our complete provision for this life and for godliness.

Jesus is also our **Jehovah Nissi**, our refuge, our banner, and our victory. We rally to Jesus, we gather to Him, and in His presence we are safe and experience our victory. He is our strong tower to whom we can flee; He is our fortress of protection; and His flag flies high over our lives. The demonic spirits against whom we battle see this banner and they fear. They know that as soon as we turn to Him and rush to His presence that they have no chance. They know they cannot defeat us because they cannot defeat Him. He is and will always be our protection. Thus, their only trick is to keep you distracted from Him and keep your eyes off of Him. They lie to you about everything so you will become disenchanted with the Lord and look elsewhere for your provision, even though all you find in that place is terror, pain, and death. Jesus—**Jehovah Nissi**—is our banner, our gathering place, and He will fight for us and through us.

Jehovah Raah. What a beautiful name. He is the Lord my Shepherd—my Great Shepherd. He is responsible for my life to: lead me to the places of nourishment

and refreshment; protect me from harm; nurture me; and care for me in affliction and disease. Being my Great Shepherd, He always knows the best pathways for my life and He always leads me down them. I may not understand the journey, but I know His voice and I follow trusting that He will lead me to safety. I am fearful by nature, but I always find my comfort and assurance in the sound of His voice. And I can be confident that when it is time to move from one field to another, He will lead me. Thus, without worry or anxiety, I can abide in my current field until **Jehovah Raah** says it is time to move. And being God, He is able to speak loud enough, over any noise, for me to hear His voice.

Jehovah Rapha—the Lord that heals—is a powerful name. It communicates that as **Jehovah**, the one responsible for every detail in our lives, He personally wounded us. And being **Rapha**, He heals every wound He inflicts. He wounds us for so many reasons: to get in touch with the true weakness and fallibility of our humanity causing us to look to Him to save us from our distress; to discipline us and cause us to grow in our relationship with Him; to induce us to turn from our flesh understanding its sickness and depravity; and for our protection. He knows that only He brings life and He wounds us purposefully so we can understand why we must choose to give ourselves to Him and to Him alone. And He is always ready to heal us from each and every affliction. **Jehovah Rapha** heals us spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and even at times physically in order that we might experience the abundant life that He alone brings.

Next is one of my favorite names, **Jehovah Shammah**—the Lord is there. Everywhere I look He can be found. And since I have asked Jesus to come into my life and be my **Adonai**, “there” just happens to be in my soul. Jesus has taken up

residence in the person of the Holy Spirit who abides in my *New Creation* and He is always there. He says, in **Hebrews 13:5**, quoting **Joshua 1:5**, “NO I will not leave you; NO I will not forsake you.” **Jehovah Shammah** has chosen to tabernacle with His people and He abides in me as I abide in Him.

Jehovah Tsidkenu, the Lord our righteousness; what a glorious name. This name defines me. Jesus is my righteousness and as a result, I am the righteousness of God (**2 Corinthians 5:21**). On my own, I could never be good enough for God—His standard is perfection. But He has made me righteous and He continually makes me righteous before Him. My righteousness is not dependent upon my doing things right; it is entirely dependent upon the one who is right. This name, **Jehovah Tsidkenu**, destroys the good child/bad child syndrome and casts down the lies of shame, guilt, condemnation, and defeat. Despite all the “would have’s,” “could have’s,” and “should have’s” of our life, the truth is we can never be good for God. Hence, despite what you have believed, we can never “do” anything “for” God. The religious works of our hands are disgusting to Him. Only what He does through us, as **Jehovah Shammah** abides in our lives, is good and pleasing to God; all else is garbage destined for the fire. This is why we must give **Jehovah Shammah** more and more access to our soul, so the righteousness of **Jehovah Tsidkenu** can shine ever so glorious in and through our lives.

However, many people love their religion and love their desire to be “good for God” more than they love God; which is why Jesus said, “many are called but few are chosen.” **Jehovah Mekoddishkem**—the Lord who sanctifies you—is the one who chooses and sets you apart for His purpose and His purposes alone (He makes you holy); and if you chose Him in return, then you know you are the chosen.

Jehovah Mekoddishkem speaks of how special and precious the chosen are to Him. We are His royal priesthood, we are His holy nation, and we are the people of God's own possession. The Lord has separated us out from among all the other peoples of the world; we must therefore stop living as if we belong to this world. If you are chosen by **Jehovah Mekoddishkem** and have chosen Him in return, you are beyond special, you are the beloved, and your identity should be formed by the reality of this name. Live out your identity as His royal priest, a member of His holy nation. And keep in mind, many say "Lord, Lord," but only those who hear and follow the voice of **Jehovah Raah** and by faith do the will of the Father are the chosen.

The name **Elohim**—God—designates that He lives outside of time; knows all things; understands all things; is above all of creation; is self-sufficient; needs no one and nothing; is unchangeable; is incomprehensible except for what He reveals; and is everywhere all the time. He is, quite simply, **God!** He is able to see the beginning from the end, including all our decisions; and, according to that knowledge, He chooses and predestines our lives with all fairness and justice. Imagine; seeing everything you would ever do, He still chose you. Hence, you can be confident **Elohim** NEVER deals with you on the basis of your sin. **Elohim** understands all we go through; after all, He prepared it, and He counsels us according to His wisdom. **Elohim** is our provision for the weakness, frailty, and deceitfulness of our own souls. And since He is everywhere all the time, we are comforted with His presence.

One of His most endearing but intense names is **Jehovah Qanna**—the Lord who is jealous. He loves us so much, He is simply obsessed with us. And being a jealous lover, He will do whatever it takes to get you to know Him and love Him in return.

He knows we will only be truly happy and content loving Him. **Qanna**—the Lord is a vigilant guardian who protects what belongs to Him and strikes down anything that gets in the way or threatens His love, including our *Old Sinful Nature*. He hates the fact that we have given ourselves to other lovers (the enemies in our soul) and worship at their temples of demons (via our coping mechanisms). He is jealous and goes to war against us to induce us to destroy the pagan altars, sacred pillars, and Asherah poles before which we worship. He want us to evict from our land the enemies in our soul and revoke every treaty we have ever made. The Spirit is very emotional about this issue and is filled with envy; thus, He gives us a greater grace to be able to destroy all these enemies and accompanying demons. **Jehovah Qanna** will not stop until He has all of us.

The good news is that we have been fully provisioned for this war. In fact, **Jehovah Jireh**—the Lord our provider—has provided us everything we need for life and godliness. Not a single thing we need is missing. **Elohim** has appointed us tasks to fulfill on this earth, and **Jehovah Jireh** will ensure that we are provided with all we need, whether spiritual or physical, to accomplish our assignments. Furthermore, He is the complete provision for all the enemies in your soul. He is your power to wage war against the enemies in your soul and the power to recant of the demons you have worshiped. Best yet, He provides Himself as the complete exchange for everything you give up. He will fill all the holes and abandoned territory once occupied by your enemies. Thus, you don't have to fear; go ahead and slay those enemies; He will be enough for **Jehovah Jireh** has provided Himself.

One of the most liberating names is the fact that Jesus is **Jehovah Sabaoth**—the Lord of Hosts. All the angels, whether good or bad, work for Him. They can do

nothing to the believer which the Lord has not authorized and empowered. They are all His servants and their job is to minister to the chosen. Whether they are comforting us or coming against us so we can be refined, they are accomplishing **Yahweh's** plans and His purposes for our lives. Thus, we must not fear the enemy; after all, the enemy is terrified of their boss, **Jehovah Shammah**, who abides in the lives of the chosen. We must walk in confidence, fearing God alone, and trusting that everything He allows and directs in our life is for our good and is an expression of His great love.

And finally, He is the Lord of Peace, **Jehovah Shalom**. This means that we are always safe all the time. There is no conflict that ever exists between us and God; He has cleared it all away for all time. We always have peace with God regardless of what we have done, are doing, or ever will do. Thus, shame, guilt, condemnation, and defeat are not our reality. It may be our experience because we have chosen to believe the lie, but it is not our reality. Every cause of shame, guilt, condemnation, and defeat has been remedied on the cross by Jesus through the shedding of His precious blood. He has saved us from these things. Over and over again He makes us right in His sight. Hallelujah!

As it says in **Joel 2:32**, **Acts 2:21**, and **Romans 10:13**, "**Anyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.**" If you truly dig down deep into your soul and make the choice to call on His name—to bet your life on His character and nature—as manner of lifestyle, (it is in the *aorist middle subjunctive*)—you will be saved. God will do it and that is an incontestable statement of fact (it is in the *future passive indicative*). You must actively believe in the name; this is what it means to call on the name of the Lord and be saved.

In closing, I want to show you some other titles of God found in the Bible, not so much names, but attributes, which you should know and rest in. He is:

El Olam, the everlasting God.

El Hanne'eman: the faithful God.

El Echad: the one God.

El Emet: the God of truth.

El Gibbor: the Mighty God.

El De'ot: the God of knowledge.

El Haggadol: the Great God.

El Hakkavod: the God of Glory.

El Hakkadosh; the Holy God.

El Hashamayim: the God of Heavens.

El Chaiyai: the God of my life.

El Channun: the Gracious God.

El Sali: the God of my strength.

El Rachum: the God of Compassion.

El Erekh Apayim avi ha-tanchumim: the God of patience and consolation.

El Malei Rachamim: the Merciful God.

El Yeshuati: the God of my Salvation.

Immanuel: God with us.

El Hanora: Awesome God.

El Roi: the God who sees me.

Once again, He is everything we need all the time is found in His name and all the attributes that are used to describe His name. You must now choose to actively believe in the name and live by faith if you are going to experience His life in abundance, His love, His peace, and all the promises that come with the name. It is all yours for the taking, so to speak. He wants you to have all of Him in the same way that He has all of you. It is time to stop self-protecting from the only one who loves you perfectly. Put your faith in Jesus and call on His name and He will shatter the darkness from your life and you will be saved.

Let's Pray