

Jesus Has a Name

Episode 22

Call Upon His Name

Yahweh Jireh

Yahweh Jireh. **Yahweh** provides.¹ People seem to love this name. Unlike many of the other names, joyful songs have even been written about **Yahweh Jireh**. The idea that our God is this big provider in the sky fits right into our tendency to have a **ME** focused outlook on life. But knowing Him by name, understanding His character and nature, requires us to take our eyes off ourselves and off what we want Him to be for us, and instead begin to listen to the way the Spirit explains to us all about the name of Jesus—**Yahweh**.

The Spirit has showed us much about this aspect of His name—**Yahweh** being our provider—yet, I am afraid we may have understood far too little because we tend to look at His name through the lens of the **ME** and what we think He should be providing for us in our now. But there is so much more to this name than we can imagine.

Yet, when we do not see or think clearly about His name, we have this tendency to twist and distort His name, in effect, to create our own golden cow to worship whom we then call **Yahweh**, our deliver, our savior. And this sort of personal idolatry, as we have learned, always evokes the jealousy of **Yahweh Qanna** which, I must tell you, is not a lot of fun, and that is putting it mildly.

Therefore, we are going to try and unpack this name, **Yahweh Jireh**, and see if we can land in a good place with a complete understanding of the ways and means by which **Yahweh Jireh** is our Provider.

In general, this name covers every aspect of our existence on this earth, both physical and spiritual. **Yahweh** will meet every need we have in terms of equipping us to complete all the work which the Father has assigned to us.

He is our bread; He is our springs of water that never run dry; He is our life; our comfort; and He is our love.² He is even the full provision for our fear, pride, and the means to conquer all the

¹ *Genesis 22*

² *John 6:48; 7:38; 14:6; Isaiah 51:12-6; 2 Corinthians 1:4; 7:6; 1 John 4:8, 16*

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enemies in our land.³ And we should not be surprised, but **Yahweh** is also the one who provides all our good work, as all we have accomplished that has any value or worth has come from **Yahweh** and not from ourselves.⁴ Practically and spiritually, He is our provision.

In fact, we are told that He has given us everything pertaining to life and godliness through the true knowledge of Him—yes, everything through the true understanding of His name.⁵

With that said, I want to be clear, **Yahweh Jireh** does not mean that every “need” you think you have will be provided for. No! That is a lie of the enemy, and that way of thinking will only lead to grave disappointment.

The chosen of God get sick, they die, they lose jobs, they get treated terribly, they find themselves alone without companionship, they struggle getting through their day, and in some countries, they get tortured, they starve, are imprisoned, and go without even some of the most basic of needs. But God is still their Provider as He always ensures that everyone has everything they need, again both physically and spiritually, to fulfill their specific assignments on this earth.

I hate to be a humbug, but this name tends to lose some of its joyful rhetoric when we look realistically at how **Yahweh** practically cares for His own.

We see this even in the life of Paul the Apostle. Paul went through many situations where He was not “provided” for by God as some would describe “provision.” Let us pick up in his discourse to the Corinthians.

2 Corinthians 11:23-33

Are they servants of Christ? — I speak as if insane — I more so; in far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death. Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. I have been on frequent

³ *Jeremiah 13:8-11; Isaiah 41:10-14*

⁴ *Isaiah 26:12; Hebrews 13:21; John 3:27; Ezekiel 36:27; 1 Kings 8:58; Philippians 1:11; 2:13; 2 Corinthians 3:5; 2 Chronicles 30:12; Ezra 1:5; James 1:16; Jeremiah 32:40*

⁵ *2 Peter 1:2-3*

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journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; I have been in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.

Apart from such external things, there is the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches. Who is weak without my being weak? Who is led into sin without my intense concern? If I have to boast, I will boast of what pertains to my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, He who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. In Damascus the ethnarch under Aretas the king was guarding the city of the Damascenes in order to seize me, and I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and so escaped his hands.

Paul did not experience these troubles because God failed to provide; rather, each trouble was appointed by **Yahweh Adonai** and was a part of God teaching Paul **WHY** he should trust in **Yahweh** and **HOW** to trust in **Yahweh** regardless of what Paul might otherwise think or feel based on his terrible circumstances. The journey which **Yahweh Raah** established for Paul was all about him coming to grips with the “*Design Point*” such that he could learn to say that the life he lived in the flesh he lived by faith in the Son of God who loved him and gave Himself up for him.⁶

In addition to all those difficulties, **Yahweh** also sent upon Paul a terrible malady which he described as a thorn in the flesh, literally a messenger from Satan sent by God to torment him.⁷ Yes, God sent a demon to physically afflict Paul. That is a shocking reality, but that is our God. Remember, with **Yahweh Mekoddishkem** and **Yahweh Qanna**, nothing in our lives is sacred except for our personal sovereignty. They will use whatever they need to accomplish their purposes in our lives.

On three different occasions Paul pleaded with God to heal him of this affliction, and God flat-out said, NO! He told Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." When Paul was able to internalize this truth and realize that **Yahweh Jireh** was His complete

⁶ *Galatians 2:20*

⁷ *See 2 Corinthians 12:7-10*

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provision, even in weakness caused by a demonically induced malady, He declared:

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore, I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

That response of Paul is somewhat unbelievable. Yet, it is this declaration, this epiphany, this remarkable resolution that separates those who embrace the kingdom of God from those who have made their abode in the kingdom of man. It is far too easy to be seeking the things of man in-and-through the name of God, like our desire to be healthy, wealthy, and wise. But we are learning about the name of **Yahweh** so we can begin to accurately see the physical aspects of our lives through the lens of the spiritual and not the other way around.

In fact, unless we come to interpret our lives in this physical realm through the lens of the spiritual, we will never come to understand the *Design Point*, for we will be too focused on what we think God should be doing for us versus appropriating all that He has, in His wisdom, provided for us. For instance, the ability to declare “I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.” Can you imagine being able to say that with a complete conviction in your heart, mind, soul, and strength.

The name **Yahweh Jireh** comes from the story of Abraham and his son Isaac.⁸ As we know, for most of his life, Abraham and his wife Sarah were childless. Yet, God promised Abraham that from his seed would come a people so numerous that they would outnumber the stars in the heavens. We are told that Abraham believed this promise of God and it was this decision of faith that prompted **Yahweh Tsidkenu** to declare Abraham righteous.⁹

⁸ See *Genesis 22*

⁹ *Genesis 15:4-6; Romans 4:1-9; Galatians 3:6-9; James 2:21-23*

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But time passed and kept passing and Abraham and Sarah kept waiting and waiting and waiting and the ridiculous soon turned into the impossible. Abraham was 99 years old when **Yahweh** finally appeared to him and to Sarah (who was 90) and told them that within the year they would have a child. Given their age and all their failed attempts to get pregnant, they could not believe it to be true; but lo and behold **Yahweh** did exactly as he said. Before the year was out Sarah gave birth to Isaac, who is Biblically known as the child of faith, the child of promise.¹⁰

When Isaac was just a boy, **Yahweh** spoke to Abraham and said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you."¹¹ Can you imagine receiving such a request from God? I can only imagine that Abraham must have been beyond confused and disturbed. God promised him a son only to subsequently tell him to kill this son of the promise in a religious sacrifice. What? How is that even possible?

This was all a set up to prove out Abraham's faith as well as God's faithfulness. Clearly **Yahweh Adonai**, who sits outside of time, knew the choice Abraham would make before He ever asked Him to sacrifice his own son just like He knew what He would do to deliver the boy (albeit just in the nick of time). We got to love that foreknowledge and predestination combo of **Yahweh Adonai** and **Yahweh Raah**. With that said, God wanted you and me to know that such decisions of absolute unrestrained faith are possible, and He used Abraham to prove His point.

No matter who you are, it is possible to believe God and bet your life on the name of Yahweh and the promises of Yahweh regardless of what you think or feel about your circumstances.¹²

Abraham saddled up his donkey, took the boy, some firewood, a knife, two servants (who would serve as witnesses, as two is the biblical number of witness), and headed to the mountains. When he arrived in the vicinity, Abraham saw the hill upon which he was to make his offering. Abraham told the servants to wait, and he and the boy would go and worship God and would soon return. It is as if Abraham were fully convinced that Isaac would be returning with him.

¹⁰ See *Genesis 15-22*

¹¹ *Genesis 22:1-3*

¹² See *Hebrews 11:17-19*

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Abraham knew that for God to be true to His promise to make a great nation out of this child of faith, God would have to provide a solution—even if it was raising Isaac from the dead.¹³ So, up the mountain they went.

On the hike up the mountain, there occurs a fascinating conversation between Isaac and Abraham. “Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, ‘My father!’ And he said, ‘Here I am, my son.’ And he said, ‘Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?’ Abraham said, ‘**God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.**’ So, the two of them walked on together.”¹⁴

God will provide—or literally God will see to it. When they reached the top, Abraham built an altar, laid down the firewood, bound Isaac with ropes, and laid him on top of the wood. Equipped with both the fire and the knife, Abraham picked up the knife and stretched out his hand to slay the boy when Jesus—who is called the “**Angel of Yahweh**” (the angel of the Lord)—spoke to Abraham and told him not to harm the boy, affirming that Abraham was truly a man who feared **Yahweh**.

Then Abraham saw behind him a ram caught in the bushes and he went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son. Abraham called the name of that place **Yahweh Jireh—Yahweh Will Provide** (or literally, **Yahweh will see to it**), as it is said to this day, “In the mount of **Yahweh** it will be provided”¹⁵

On a side note, this mountain in the land of Moriah is the mountain which has also been called Golgotha, the hill where Jesus was be crucified, as God provided Himself, the Lamb, as the ultimate sacrifice for sin. Truly, on the mountain **Yahweh will see to it**.

In this story, God made provision for Abraham and Isaac, just as He would make provision for all mankind. **Yahweh Jireh** also met the real time practical needs of Isaac and saved his life (though He waited until the very last second which had to be nerve wracking), because God still had work for Isaac to fulfill. He also held true to the promise He had made Abraham, though for

¹³ See **Genesis 21:12; Hebrews 11:17-19**

¹⁴ **Genesis 22:7-8**

¹⁵ **Genesis 22:13-14**

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a moment there it looked like Abraham had both been deceived and allowed himself to be deceived by God.

But in so doing, **Yahweh** foreshadowed the way He would deal with the true spiritual needs of all mankind. **Yahweh Jireh** made Himself the provision for the problem of sin which separated the Father and mankind; and on that very mountain it was provided. Yes, **Yahweh** would see to it that He is our complete provision for life and godliness.

And now that sin has been dealt with, we are free in Jesus to live with no condemnation for our transgressions, and if there is no condemnation, we also then have no reason to live in guilt or shame. **Yahweh Jireh** is our provision for everything pertaining to life and godliness through the true knowledge of Jesus Christ who called us by His own glory and excellence.¹⁶

Romans 8:1-4

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

And because those who are in Christ—the chosen—have been set free from the bondage of sin, and have been declared perfect (which is the requirement of the law that has been fulfilled in us by Jesus), we are now free to not just break, smash, and destroy our pagan altars, sacred pillars, and Asherah poles, we can also allow **Yahweh** to destroy the enemies in our soul which stand in opposition to God and to tear up every contract and alliance we have ever made with those enemies.

¹⁶ **2 Peter 1:3**

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Romans 8:12-14

So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh — for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

We are under no obligation to the enemies in the land or to the demon gods of the land, regardless of the treaties we have made with them. We have been set free. This is Jesus' provision for our lives. We can revoke those treaties, recant, and choose to let Him cause us to live not from our *flesh* but from the Spirit (who is also a provision from Jesus). However, if we do, all-out war will ensure, just saying.

However, **Yahweh Jireh**, will be our provision for this war as He was our provision when He set us free from sin, fulfilled the requirement of the law for us and in us, and gave us His Spirit to lead us and live through us.

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.

Is there anything you need to win this war that you have not already been given? No! Everything has been provided for by **Yahweh Jireh**—everything! God has seen to it. It is all found, however, through the **true knowledge** of Jesus Christ. That is why we are studying His name so we can know all about Him. Unfortunately, there is so much false and twisted knowledge associated with Jesus Christ, and much of it has been made to justify the alliances we have made with His sworn enemies.

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The Spirit however wants us to come to know His name and then to personally know and experience Him by His name. It all goes back to the **WHY** and the **HOW**. He is always showing us **WHY**, like Abraham, we are safe to bet our lives upon His name and **HOW** to bet our lives upon His name. He wants us to be thoroughly convinced that He will always do what He says and that He will fulfill every promise, it is just a matter of time. But the net, net of it all is that He wants our trust as He is the only one who is trustworthy.

This must become to us a very real and intimate experience. We must come to know how His name differs from our name and how it differs from the names of His enemies with which we have made our alliances. These differences are beyond profound, they are not even comparable. We just need to become convinced of this truth by the Spirit.

Keep in mind, **knowing His name** in a Biblical context is what we might call **understanding His name**. It is all about personally experiencing His character and personhood in all our circumstances which only comes to be when we bet our lives on His promises, just like Abraham. Thus, even if God asks us to carry the fire and the knife and sacrifice the very promise we have been waiting for, **Yahweh** will provide, God will see to it. That is the essence of His name.

If we call on His name we will be saved, for there is much power in the name when it is accompanied by faith.