

# Jesus Has a Name

## Episode 23

### Call Upon His Name

#### Yahweh Sabaoth – Part 1

As we have discussed, our goal in studying the names of God 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 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: ALL THOUGHTS, EMOTIONS, EXPERIENCES, AND SO ON.**

This name is one of my favorites because it is so freaking cool and, for me at least, it has broken down the door of fear I had for the enemy and shined the light on something the enemy wants so desperately to keep hidden, and that is the truth that they—every last single one of them—are servants of our God and of every true child of God. How cool is that?

**Yahweh Sabaoth. Yahweh** of Heaven’s Armies.<sup>1</sup> This name, translated “Lord of Hosts” or “Lord of Heaven’s armies” is used 239 times in the Old Testament and it is the most used compound name referring to **Yahweh**. But what is most fascinating about this name is what it reveals about the behind-the-scenes workings of the Kingdom of God in the spiritual realms.

**Jesus is the Commander of Heaven’s Armies.**

Let us be clear about what this name is stating about **Yahweh**. Jesus claims that all authority has been given to Him on heaven and earth and all things have been handed over to Him by His Father.<sup>2</sup> We are also told that He is the Lord (*Kurios* in Greek an *Adonai* in Hebrew) of **ALL**, whether dead or living.<sup>3</sup>

In addition, He is the head and rule over all authority as angels, authorities, and powers have

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<sup>1</sup> *Job 1,2; Hosea 7:12; 1 Kings 22:19-23; Zechariah 3:1-2*

<sup>2</sup> *Matthew 28:18, 11:27*

<sup>3</sup> *Acts 2:36; Romans 14:9*

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been subjected to Him, for the Father has seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put **ALL THINGS** in subjection under His feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.<sup>4</sup>

Therefore, what this name declares is that the good angels and the demonic angels (all the evil beings) work for **Yahweh**. They all do what He commands and are all subject to Him. By the way, this is consistent with what we have learned in our study of **Yahweh Adonai**, there are no rogue or free agents, just servants subject to **Yahweh's** strict administration.

In this study, we will peek into the Great Assembly of God where **Yahweh** makes decisions about the peoples of the earth. We will find that He dispatches His angels, including the demonic spirits, out from the Assembly with specific instructions to accomplish His authorized purposes.<sup>5</sup> Without His specific approval, they cannot act.

Even the devil works for **Yahweh**. He is just a tool in the hands of our God. Yes, Lucifer, who is known as Satan, the Devil, the Dragon, the Serpent, Leviathan, and probably many more names that we do not know, works for **Yahweh**. He is **Yahweh's** servant.

The great cosmic irony however is that the good angels know they are carrying out **Yahweh's** purposes and rejoice in their service to Him; yet it seems the demonic angels do not fully comprehend this truth. They are deceived and seem to believe that they are running to a different tune, another agenda altogether.<sup>6</sup>

Nevertheless, **Yahweh Mekoddishkem**, **Yahweh Raah**, and **Yahweh Qanna** use these terrible beings to accomplish **Yahweh's** purifying and beautiful purposes in our lives; hence, we are told that **they all are ministering angels sent, one-way-or-another, to serve His Chosen ones as Yahweh Sabaoth commands.**<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> *Colossians 2:10; 1 Peter 3:22; Ephesians 1:20-23*

<sup>5</sup> *Judges 9:23; 1 Samuel 16:14, 18:10, 1 Kings 22:19-23, 2 Chronicles 18:18-22; Isaiah 19:14, and 2 Corinthians 12:7*

<sup>6</sup> *1 Corinthians 2:6-9*

<sup>7</sup> *Hebrews 1:14*

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What does this mean for us? It means that we are to have no fear of these spirits, for the One who created all things commands each one of them to work on our behalf—to complete His good purposes in our lives.

### The Name Sabaoth

As far as the name “**Sabaoth**,” it refers to a mass of beings gathered for war, an army. Hence, in our translations, we read that Jesus is the **Lord of Heaven’s armies**. Again, every good angel and every demonic angel works for Jesus who is Lord (**Adonai**) of all. And although the enemy may not fear us, it is good to know that are terrified of their master, **Yahweh Sabaoth**, who lives in us as **Yahweh Shammah**.

Therefore, if we are now believing and standing firm in our faith, and as **Yahweh** is free to take up more and more territory in our being, the enemy will flee from us for they must obey their master.<sup>8</sup>

### The Armies of Heaven

It is generally understood that **Yahweh** has myriads and myriads of angels ministering to Him who are at His beck-and-call. “The chariots of God are myriads, thousands upon thousands.”<sup>9</sup> “Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands.”<sup>10</sup>

The picture many of us have in our minds is that of Jesus and His angels up in heaven, swords drawn, ready to vanquish evil, waiting for a child of God to call upon Him so they can sweep in and quickly dispatch the unseen workers of evil. And while that may happen, it is only part of the story. **Yahweh Sabaoth** is the commander of all the armies of heaven, both good and bad. We see this dynamic clearly in the story of King Ahab.

### The Great Assembly

We know from a plethora of scriptures that **Yahweh** has these celestial staff meetings on the

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<sup>8</sup> *James 4:7-8; Isaiah 8:12-14*

<sup>9</sup> *Psalm 68:17. See also Hebrews 12:22*

<sup>10</sup> *Revelation 5:11-12*

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mountain of God.<sup>11</sup> From this high and lofty place, He calls forth His “assembly” and reviews what the angelic beings are up to (including Satan and various demonic beings). It is in this assembly, which is also referred to as the “Council” or the Courtroom of God, where Satan brings accusation against God’s people (this seems to be what Jesus alludes to when He says that whoever insults his brother is in danger of being brought before the court or the council).<sup>12</sup>

In **Yahweh’s** angelic chambers, decisions are made regarding the people of the earth and angels are dispatched, including demonic spirits, out from the Assembly with specific instructions to accomplish **Yahweh’s** authorized purposes.<sup>13</sup> It is truly bizarre.

Let us look at the “behind the scenes” spiritual workings on the mountain of God leading up to the demise of King Ahab of Israel.

### ***2 Chronicles 18:18-22***

Micaiah said, "Therefore, hear the word of Yahweh. I saw Yahweh sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing on His right and on His left. " Yahweh said, 'Who will entice Ahab king of Israel to go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' And one said this while another said that. "Then a spirit came forward and stood before Yahweh and said, 'I will entice him.' And Yahweh said to him, 'How?' "He said, 'I will go and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' Then He said, 'You are to entice him and prevail also. Go and do so.' "Now therefore, behold, Yahweh has put a deceiving spirit in the mouth of these your prophets, for Yahweh has proclaimed disaster against you."

You may have been rolling your eyes at the introduction, not fully convinced of what I said. But based on this passage, we definitively know that any reference to “**all the host of heaven**” does not just include good angels since a deceiving spirit came forth, stood before **Yahweh**, and

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<sup>11</sup> *Job 1-2, Hosea 7:12; 1 Kings 22:19-23; Psalm 22:22,25, 82:1-8, 89:5, 7, 111:1; Proverbs 26:26; Isaiah 14:13; Zechariah 3:1-2*

<sup>12</sup> *Matthew 5:21-22; Revelation 12:10*

<sup>13</sup> *1 Samuel 16:14, 18:10; 1 Kings 22:19-23; 2 Chronicles 18:21-22; Isaiah 19:14; 2 Corinthians 12:7*

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recommended the plan of action which **Yahweh** approved against King Ahab and his prophets—a plan that was built on a lie.

Thus, all the host of heaven, or all the armies of heaven, are references to both the good angels as well as the bad, evil, or demonic angels. In this encounter, **Yahweh** had proclaimed disaster on King Ahab and this demon put forth the plan through which Ahab's demise would be carried out. And it involved lying to Ahab's prophets, as only a skilled demon could do.

### Yahweh's Approval and Empowerment Required

We can therefore conclude that demonic spirits are not free to just do whatever they want. Rather, they needed two things to act: 1) **Yahweh's** specific approval of a plan; and 2) **Yahweh's** empowerment of the plan—in other words, the declaration that their plans would succeed.

Without His Word, they could not act, and even if they could (which the name **Yahweh Sabaoth** and **Yahweh Adonai** indicates that they cannot), they would not succeed. Thus, it is clear from this passage that every angelic being and every demonic being works for **Yahweh** and only does what He allows or directs.

With that said, the success He permits allows them to carry out their plan, but it does not guarantee that the results they are seeking will occur as they hope it will. As we understand from the life of Job, **Yahweh** tends to have His own plan and purposes for their plan and their methods. And **Yahweh's** plans never fail!

Now, to the surprise of most believers, even Satan, Lucifer himself, works for **Yahweh**. Satan is not an independent agent waging a war against the purposes of **Yahweh**; although that is what he wants us to believe, and it is the lie that most believers have swallowed. Rather, the truth is that he is just a tool—that is it, just a tool. Satan works for **Yahweh Sabaoth** just like all the other angels.

For example, Jesus once told Peter that Satan had demanded permission to sift him like wheat.<sup>14</sup> This means that as the accuser, who accuses the brethren before God, day-and-night,<sup>15</sup> found reason to bring accusation against Peter (probably because of his pride) and Satan literally

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<sup>14</sup> **Luke 22:31-32**

<sup>15</sup> **Revelation 12:10**

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sought out the right to sift him like wheat by asking (translated as “demanded”) **Yahweh** to let Peter be tried. And to our surprise, **Yahweh** gave Satan permission to come directly against Peter. The point is that Satan first had to seek and obtain permission from **Yahweh**.

Another example is when **Yahweh** called Satan into the Assembly and asked him if he (Satan) had considered **Yahweh’s** servant Job. It is one of the most revealing stories that lets us peek behind the veil of our reality into the unseen realms.

### *Job 1:6-12*

One day the members of the heavenly court came to present themselves before Yahweh, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them. "Where have you come from?" Yahweh asked Satan. Satan answered Yahweh, "I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that's going on." Then Yahweh asked Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil." Satan replied to Yahweh, "Yes, but Job has good reason to fear God. You have always put a wall of protection around him and his home and his property. You have made him prosper in everything he does. Look how rich he is! But reach out and take away everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!" "All right, you may test him," Yahweh said to Satan. "Do whatever you want with everything he possesses, but don't harm him physically." So, Satan left Yahweh 's presence.

As with the story of King Ahab, **Yahweh** granted 1) specific approval of the plan; and 2) empowered the plan by setting a strict limitation on what Satan was permitted to do. **Yahweh** let Satan be creative, but he would not let Satan harm Job physically. The story goes on to say that Satan brought horrible disasters upon Job to steal away practically every tangible person and thing from Job.

Satan enticed foreign invaders to attack; he caused fire to fall from the heaven and burn up Job’s sheep and shepherds; and he caused a tornado to crash down on the home of his children

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and kill them all. It was awful. All Satan left was Job's wife who told him he should just curse God and die (thank you for that one Satan). But Job still humbly worshiped **Yahweh**. So, this led to a follow-on encounter at another meeting of the great assembly.

### *Job 2:1-7*

One day the members of the heavenly court came again to present themselves before Yahweh, and the Accuser, Satan, came with them. "Where have you come from?" Yahweh asked Satan. Satan answered Yahweh, "I have been patrolling the earth, watching everything that's going on." Then Yahweh asked Satan, "Have you noticed my servant Job? He is the finest man in all the earth. He is blameless—a man of complete integrity. He fears God and stays away from evil. And he has maintained his integrity, **even though you urged me to harm him without cause.**" Satan replied to Yahweh, "Skin for skin! A man will give up everything he has to save his life. But reach out and take away his health, and he will surely curse you to your face!" "All right, do with him as you please," Yahweh said to Satan. "But spare his life." So, Satan left Yahweh's presence, and he struck Job with terrible boils from head to foot.

This second scene is like the first one where we see that **Yahweh** gave specific approval of Satan's plan and He empowered the plan and set limits on the plan. What is really disturbing however is that in both scenarios it was God who started this banter over Job's life, and it is **Yahweh** who took personal responsibility for harming Job. Yes, God owned it all.

Satan did not come to the heavenly court with some accusation seeking permission to attack Job; rather, Satan had just been roaming the earth and God prompted Satan to focus on Job. However, in this spiritual drama, God had great plans for Job, plans which would involve Him encountering God and getting to know **Yahweh** like never before. These plans would more than confirm Job's faithfulness to God, despite his tremendous pain; and, in so doing, shame all the heavenly hosts of wickedness.

What is odd is that it seems that Satan did not understand that God holds all the cards. Satan

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arrogantly thought that all it would take is some deep wounding and Job's faith would cave. But the faith in the heart of Job was rock solid. Instead of cursing God, we find that he worshiped **Yahweh**.<sup>16</sup> In fact, Job said that all his complaints about his suffering were ignorant, for what he learned about God was beyond wonderful in comparison.

This spiritual dynamic is fascinating. **Yahweh** knows what He is going to do and what it will produce in our lives, yet He uses the enemy to accomplish His work. And the enemy seems ignorant of **Yahweh's** plans and purposes. In the case of Job (and that of Peter), Satan takes the challenge hoping to crush the people of God with defeat and shame.

And what is even more interesting is that in the instance of Job, throughout all his suffering, Job did not blame Satan nor his demons; rather, he blamed **Yahweh** for all his tragedy. He knew who was truly responsible. He said, "For the Almighty has stuck me down with his arrows. He has sent his poisoned arrows deep within my spirit. All God's terrors are arrayed against me." "Have I sinned? What have I done to you oh watcher of humanity? Why have you made me your target?"<sup>17</sup>

And what is even more surprising is that God affirmed that Job had spoken right about Him.<sup>18</sup> Throughout tragedy after tragedy, Job understood that **Yahweh** was in control of everything all the time, even over the devilish agents through which his suffering came.

This name **Yahweh Sabaoth** should bring us great comfort. I mentioned before that this dynamic of the spiritual world is one great cosmic irony because the good angels know they are carrying out **Yahweh's** purposes, but it seems that the demonic angels do not quite understand this truth. The demons always seem far too anxious to run to do their work believing that they can hurt and damage **Yahweh's** chosen ones. But **Yahweh** has planned it all in advance and uses all of it, both the successes and the failures of His chosen ones, to make them more like Christ.

Remember, **Yahweh Adonai** sits outside of time and already knows how we are going to respond to each set of circumstances He prescribes for our lives. It is how He accomplishes the

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<sup>16</sup> *Job 42:1-6*

<sup>17</sup> *Job 6:4, 7:20*

<sup>18</sup> *Job 42:7*



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*Design Point* in His Chosen ones, while at the same time it is how He seals those in death who have decided to, now and continually, reject His love. After all, Jesus, **Yahweh**, is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning, and the end.<sup>19</sup> Thus, all things originate with Him, including every single test and trial that we face, and all things end with Him. He is the source and completion—the progenitor and the fruition—of all matters. “For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.”<sup>20</sup>

I do not know about you, but it brings me so much rest to know that He knows in advance how I will respond to every single test and trial that He has ordained for my life. What a blessing it is to know that He intentionally uses all my failures and all my successes to bring forth the *Design Point* in my life. And He will continue until I reach the point where I can legitimately declare: “it is no longer I who live but Christ that lives in me.”<sup>21</sup>

With that said, I do not like the fact that **Yahweh Sabaoth** uses the bad angels who are terrible and hateful. However, I am thankful that I do not have to fear them, as they are just the tools **Yahweh** has chosen to reach the places in my soul that **Yahweh Mekoddishkem** and **Yahweh Qanna** want to reach and possess.

In this regard, Satan and the demons are a gift to believers and are a blessing in our lives, for they are the perfect tool in the hands of our loving **Yahweh** to accomplish all His good, pleasing, and perfect will in our lives. Yes, even the devil and his demons are “good.” Now, I am quite sure that is not something you hear about very often. However, this truth is why we are told that we can be thankful in all things.<sup>22</sup>

### Fearing the Enemy

It seems that far too many people fear the enemy. Sure, they are an unseen force, and they are filled with hate and wickedness, and they do some terrifying stuff, but truth be told they are all around us all the time. If we could see into the unseen realms, we would realize that they have their own society and culture that is imbedded with ours. So, when they do manifest themselves

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<sup>19</sup> *Revelation 22:13*

<sup>20</sup> *Romans 11:36*

<sup>21</sup> *Galatians 2:20*

<sup>22</sup> *1 Thessalonians 5:18; Ephesians 5:20; Hebrews 13:15*

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into our physical realm, it should not surprise us. Again, just like the angels, they are a tangible (though unseen) part of our lives.

Moreover, they are necessary. Again, they are simply the agents which **Yahweh** uses to bring forth from our lives, and into our consciousness, areas that He, as **Yahweh Qanna**, wants to possess.

It is important to always remember that even the demonic angels **are our servants**. They are not independent rogue agents who have the power to hurt us indiscriminately. All things they do must pass through the Assembly. Therefore, we can be confident that every expression or manifestation in our lives of these demonic beings is an appointment by our Father, by our God, and it is part of His **Plan-A** for our lives, and it is for our benefit and for our good.

As we close this episode, I want us to think about this amazing and startling truth. All the angels, even the demonic nasty evil creatures are **ministering spirits**, sent out to render service to those who will inherit salvation.<sup>23</sup>

God is beyond brilliant. The way the seen and unseen worlds connect and work together is nothing short of phenomenal. **And to think that it is all for you and for me—for all those who want to know Him by His name, Yahweh Sabaoth.**

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<sup>23</sup> **Hebrews 1:14**