

THE NAMES OF GOD

Midwest City Free Methodist Church

Intimacy

“I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things you name and your word.”

Psalm 138:2

I. The Revelation of Jesus Christ in the New Testament

A. Jesus Christ proclaimed the Good News

1. The forgiveness of sin - through the blood of Son.
2. The power to change - through the filling of the Holy Spirit.
3. The ability to love - through the grace of the Father.

B. Jesus Christ exalted Father - God - *John 17:25-26*

1. The world does not know much about God.
2. The world does not live in love.
3. Jesus Christ was sent to the world by a loving God.
4. Jesus Christ continues to make known Father God.

II. The Revelation of God in the Old Testament

A. What is in a name?

1. Often indicates character or particular qualities.
2. Often gives insight into the purposes and plans.

B. Introduction to The Names of God

1. Elohim - *Genesis 1* - greatness and glory/ mercy and grace
 - a. El - mighty, strong, prominent - God
 - b. Ohim - creative and governing power, omnipotence, sovereign
 - c. Plural - reveals the Godhead - *Ecclesiastes 12:1*
2. Jehovah - *Genesis 2:4*—moral and spiritual attributes
 - a. Yhwh - I am that I am”; to be, being, living
 - b. Used in books relating to Israel: Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings.
 - c. Elohim used in Ecclesiastes, Daniel and Jonah
 - d. Five Points of YHWHism - *Psalm 103:8, Exodus 24:6*
 1. Compassionate
 2. Gracious
 3. Slow to anger
 4. Abounding in love and faithfulness
 5. Forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin
3. El - Shaddai - *Genesis 17:1-2* - power, energy, will
 - a. Shaddai - breast, nourishment, supply, satisfaction
 - b. Sadeh - cultivated field
 - c. Used to describe chastening - *Ruth 1:20-21*
4. Adonai - *Genesis 15:2* - Lord - Master or ruler or lordship
 - a. Creates a master/servant covenant ie “Moses my servant”
 - b. Carried over into the New Testament in reference to the Lord Jesus Christ

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Jehovah Jireh

Provision

I. Journey to Moriah “provided of Jehovah”

- A. There comes a crisis moment — God interrupts us in the course of life.
 - 1. We choose to hear God (faith).
 - 2. We choose to answer God (repentance).
 - 3. We choose to obey God (fellowship).
- B. Faith in God enables us to believe God’s promises. *Genesis 17:21*
 - 1. We are called to believe in Jesus. *Mark 1:15*
 - 2. We are asked to follow Jesus. *Matthew 4:19*
 - 3. We are asked to take up our cross. *Luke 9:23*
 - 4. We will experience a crucifixion in our lives. *Galatians 2:20*
 - 5. We will experience new life in Jesus Christ. *2 Corinthians 5:17*
- D. Faith produces action — We will be caused to move.

II. The Sacred Mountain

- A. The son is obedient to death. *Philippians 2:8*
- B. The father is willing to sacrifice his only son. *Romans 8:32*
- C. The ram is provided and offered up as a substitute sacrifice. *Hebrews 9:14*
- D. The son is returned to the father. *Ephesians 1:20*

III. Jehovah Jireh — *In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen. (KJV)*

- A. God foresaw the need for a better, more perfect sacrifice
 - 1. Hebrew — ra’ah (pron. rawaw) which means “to see, to appear” or to have “prevision”
 - 2. Latin — video which means “to see” or to “have vision”
- B. God provided the sacrifice in His Son, Jesus Christ
 - 1. Provision means “making arrangement, to prepare, to ready, to lay a foundation”
 - 2. Provide means “to give, to offer up, to supply”

*For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through
that one man, how much more will those who receive
God’s provision of grace and of the gift of
righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.
Romans 5:17*

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Jehovah Rophe - Our Healer

*“Praise the lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits—
who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases...”*
Psalm 103:1-3

I. Review

A. The Names of God

1. Elohim - God of grace and glory, strong
2. Jehovah - YHWH - “I am that I am”
3. El Shaddai - Almighty, Powerful, Satisfaction
4. Adonai - Lord, Master, Ruler
5. Jehovah Jireh - God our provider

B. Five Points of YHWHism

1. Compassionate
2. Gracious
3. Slow to anger
4. Abounding in love and faithfulness
5. Forgiving

II. In the Wilderness - Exodus 15:22-27

A. Journey out of Bondage

1. God comes to speak truth - sent Moses
2. God comes to convict hearts - sent plagues
3. God comes to bring mercy - sent death
4. God comes to deliver his people - sent angels

B. Journey into Faith

1. We leave behind our old stuff - left Egypt
2. We leave behind our old ways - left slavery
3. We leave behind our old thoughts - left pharaoh
4. We leave behind our old life - left sin

C. Journey with God - Jehovah Rophe

1. God heals - physical, mental, emotional, spiritual
2. God restores - our life, our peace, our image, our future
3. God cures - our lust; our greed; our pride
4. God delivers by His grace, mercy and power
 - a. Set free from sin and sinful nature
 - b. Set free from self and condemnation
 - c. “A piece of wood changes everything”

“Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.”
Isaiah 53:4-5

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Jehovah Nissi - Our Banner

“So this is what the Sovereign Lord says: ‘See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed.’”

Isaiah 28:16

I. The Journey Continues

A. From Marah and Elim - *Exodus 15:22-27*

1. God sweetens the bitter waters with a piece of wood.
2. God declares he is Jehovah - Rophe, the healer.
3. God leads the people to Elim with 12 springs and 70 palm trees.

B. From Elim to the Desert of Sin - *Exodus 16:1-36*

1. The people grumble against Moses and Aaron about the food.
2. God rains down bread from heaven and quail from the skies.
3. God honors the Sabbath day commandment.

C. From the Desert to Massah and Meribah - *Exodus 17:1-7*

1. The people quarrels and grumble against Moses.
2. God brings water out of the rock.
3. The Amalekites come and attack the people of Israel.
 - a. Descendants of Amalek, grandson of Esau.
 - b. They were the first nation to oppose Israel.
 - c. They hardened their hearts toward God.
 - d. God had them destroyed by King Hezekiah - *I Chronicles 4:43*

II. A Spiritual Battle

A. Israel faces their new enemy - *Exodus 17:8-13*

1. Joshua called to choose men and go fight.
2. Moses, Aaron and Hur called to prayer on the hilltop.
3. Joshua wins the victory over the Amalekites.

B. Moses builds an altar - *Exodus 17:14-16*

1. Records the victory over the enemy
2. Declares God to be **Jehovah - Nissi - The Banner**

III. What Jehovah - Nissi Means to Us

A. God is our Standard - *Exodus 17:15-16*

1. We rally to God as our defender and protector.
2. We see God as deliverer.
3. We experience God as we overcome trials, tests and temptations.
 - a. By faith - we believe God is greater.
 - b. By faith - we believe God will save us.

B. God is our Strength - *Ephesians 6:10-18*

1. Be strong in the Lord - **God is almighty**
2. Put on the armor of God - **Prepare for battle**
3. Stand firm - **Evil is coming**
4. Pray in the Spirit - **Connected to God**
5. Be alert - **Guard the way**

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Our Holiness

- I. Jehovah - M'Kaddesh - Jehovah who sanctifies - *Leviticus 20:7-8*
 - A. God set apart the Sabbath day - *Genesis 2:3*
 - B. God set apart feasts and fast days
 1. Year of Jubilee
 2. Day of Atonement - *Leviticus 25:10*
 - C. God set apart places
 1. The camp of Israel
 2. The hill of Zion
 3. The city of Jerusalem
 4. The altar
 5. The tabernacle/temple - mikdash meaning *sanctuary*
 - D. God set apart the people
 1. At birth - *Jeremiah 1:5*
 2. Firstborn of Israel - *Exodus 13:2*
 3. Priests - Kodesh - holiness to Jehovah - *Exodus 28:36*
 4. All people - *Deuteronomy 7:6*
- II. God is holy.
 - A. All other gods are idols - "a thing of nought"
 - B. All other gods are a depraved lot - thinking only of their pleasures, lusts and quarrels [GIGO-HIHO]
 - C. The beauty of the Lord is seen in His holiness - *Psalm 27:4, 90:17, Ephesians 4:22-24*
 - D. God's holiness is pure and burning - He is a jealous God - *Deuteronomy 4:24*
- III. Dangers of Perceived Holiness
 - A. Perfectionism - created unreachable standard for ourselves
 - B. Legalism - unrealistic comparisons
 - C. Judgmentalism - concomitant of perfectionism and legalism
 - D. Privatism - making holiness strictly personal and interior
 - E. Self-Deception - deceiving and excusing self of sin
- IV. Holiness is a Love Relationship - a matter of the heart
 - A. Holiness comes by grace through faith.
 - B. Holiness is an outward and inward cleansing.
 - C. Holiness is participating in the nature of God - His character and works.
 - D. Holiness is positive and active - in practice and in position.
 - E. Holiness is a process.
- V. Our Holiness
 - A. Christ set himself apart as the Son and manifestation of God to do His will – *Hebrews 10:7-9*
 - B. Christ became our sanctification through the offering of his body - *Hebrews 10:10, 14*
 - C. We are called with a holy calling - *II Timothy 1:9*
 - D. We are sanctified by the Word of Truth - *John 17:17*
 - E. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit - *Romans 12:1-2*

"May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Ephesians 5:23

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Jehovah Shalom

“Our Peace”

Judges 6:24

I. Jehovah is the Source of Peace.

- A. God is the starting point, the origin, the prime cause of all peace.
- B. God is perfect, unfailing peace — our hope and assurance.
- C. God’s gift is peace. *Psalm 29:11*
 - 1. He grieves at sin and corruption of the world. *Ezekiel 33:11*
 - 2. He is stirred to wrath at the evil of the wicked world.
 - 3. He knows sorrow and affliction. *Exodus 3:7, Isaiah 63:9*
 - 4. He is committed to saving His people and blessing them.
- D. God speaks peace to us. *Judges 6:12*

II. The Presence of Jehovah is Peace.

A. God is with us.

Trusting/Resting in God

Ability to be still vs.

Sleep or lie at ease vs.

Refreshed, gain strength vs.

Patient vs.

Never alone, not afraid vs.

Trusting in Self

Turmoil, chaos, struggle

Anxious, restless, distress

Zapped of energy

Impatient, nervous

Lonely, fearful

1. The wicked cannot rest. *Isaiah 57:2,20-21; 59:7-88*

2. There is a way of sinners and a way of the righteous. *Psalm 1*

B. God restores health and wholeness — brings into harmony the relationship between God and man. *Proverbs 14:30*

C. God has a plan for us and wants to prosper us *Jeremiah 29:11*

III. Jesus is the Fullness and Perfection of Our Peace

A. He is the Prince of Peace *Isaiah 9:6, Luke 1:78-79, 2:14*

B. He is perfect peace *John 14:27, 16:33*

C. He is the peace offering *Romans 5:1-2, 2 Corinthians 5:19, Colossians 1:20*

1. Sin had to be dealt with — atonement had to be made.

2. He was committed and devoted to God — to doing the Father’s will.

3. He restored communion/fellowship with God.

D. He preached and promised peace.

IV. The conditions to be met for peace. *Philippians 4:6-7*

A. Trust in God — do not be afraid or anxious.

B. Pray and petition God with thanksgiving.

C. Present your requests to God.

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Jehovah - Tsidkenu

“The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called; The Lord Our Righteousness.”
Jeremiah 23:5-6

I. The History of Israel

A. One Kingdom Under God

1. Saul - fragmented tribes and broken relationships
2. David - transitioned into a kingdom with prosperity and security
3. Solomon - continual growth with heavy burden
4. Rehoboam - rebellion and a split kingdom Israel and Judah

B. Israel: The Northern Kingdom

1. Worshipped at Bethel and Gilgal
2. Great wealth but neglected justice and mercy
3. Assyrians take Samria in 722 BC - “lost tribes”
4. Jerusalem under siege until 701 BC

C. Judah: The Southern Kingdom

1. Lasts another 100 years - around Jerusalem
2. Babylonians take Jerusalem in 587 BC
3. God judges Judah for unfaithfulness
 - a. Baal Worship
 - b. Broken covenant with God
 - c. Broken relationship with God
 - d. Faithless religion

II. The Prophetic Word

A. God sent his messengers to Judah:

Zephaniah, Nahum, Habakkuk; Jeremiah, Obadiah, Ezekiel and Jonah

B. Jeremiah - the weeping prophet

1. Jeremiah weeps over the desolation - *Jeremiah 2:14-15*
2. Expressions of distress and suffering - *Jeremiah 9:7-21*
3. Calls to repentance and righteousness - *Jeremiah 22-23:8*

C. New King and New Promise - Zedekiah - The Righteousness of God - *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

1. God would heal, cleanse, secure and make righteous his people
2. God would place his righteousness in their hearts

III. What Jehovah - Tsidkenu Means to Us

A. God is our measurement

1. We find a balance of justice and mercy in God - *Isaiah 10:1-4*
2. We find integrity in God - right actions at the right time - *Psalms 129:4*
3. We find blessings and prosperity in God - *Isaiah 62:1-5*

B. God is our righteousness

1. We are made righteous by Jesus Christ - *I Corinthians 1:30*
2. We are cleansed from our sin - *II Corinthians 5:21*
3. We are made alive in the Spirit - *I Peter 3:18*
4. We are servants of righteousness - *Romans 6:17-18*

Jehovah Rohi “Our Shepherd”

True shepherd of our souls, who calls his own by name,
Help us this hour to hear and to heed your voice.

We know no other voice, and no other voice will we follow. Amen.

- I. Jehovah Rohi — meaning of the name *Psalm 23*
 - A. One who tends a flock
 - B. To associate with as with a friend *Exodus 33:11*
 - C. Keeps company with i.e., a companion — dwells with and shares in life, food, etc

- II. Jehovah — the Shepherd of His People
 - A. Feeds them in good pasture
 - B. Gathers the lambs into His arms and carries them *Isaiah 40:10-11*
 - C. Gently leads those that have young
 - D. Searches for His sheep and seeks them out *Ezekial 34:11*
 - E. Makes them lie down in safety *Psalm 78:52-53a*
 - F. Binds up the broken *Isaiah 61:1*
 - G. Strengthens those that are sick
 - H. He is always on watch *Psalm 121*

- III. Jesus, the Good Shepherd *Hebrews 13:20, 1 Peter 2:25*
 - A. Announcement of His birth to shepherds keeping watch over their flocks
 - B. Name *Immanuel* — God with us — He dwells with us.
 - C. Announces “I am the Good Shepherd” *John 10:11*
 - D. Goes in search of His sheep *John 15:3-7*
 - E. He took on our infirmities — our sicknesses, our sorrows. *Isaiah 53:4*
 - F. He gave his life for the sheep. *Isaiah 53:6-7*
 - G. He was obedient to the Father. *Isaiah 53:10*

- IV. The Holy Spirit — Our Companion
 - A. He guides and leads us into all truth. *John 16:13*
 - B. He comforts us. *John 14:16*