



Last Wednesday, we learned the name Yahweh. The name Yahweh comes from the Hebrew consonants

“YHWH”

We are not 100% sure how the ancient Hebrew people pronounced this name because there are no vowels in the Hebrew text. After the dispersion of the Jews in 586, the name was considered be so sacred by the Jews that returned to Palestine, they retired that name. The Jews substitute Lord for Yahweh when they read the text.

YHWH has been pronounced Yahweh by biblical scholars based on what is an educated guess about the vowels. In Latin, Yahweh is pronounced Jehovah.

Yahweh=Jehovah

I will use those two names interchangeably as we proceed.

The name Yahweh was first used by God to reveal His identity in Genesis 2:4. The name Yahweh revealed that God is self-existent, has no beginning or end, and is Lord over everything.

We saw last week how the truth that God is Yahweh caused David to boast in the name Yahweh in the cave of Adullam.

Psalms 34:1-3

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

2 My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; The humble shall hear of it and be glad.

3 Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.

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David believed that Yahweh was on his side. We saw how David's decision to boast in Yahweh transformed his soul.

After God revealed Himself in Genesis 2:4 as Yahweh, the fall of man occurred. After the fall of man, God progressively revealed who He is in scripture to fallen men through various names.

Here is God's method.

- **God's people had a problem.**
- **God solved the problem.**
- **God's solution to the problem revealed who God is.**
- **God was given a memorial name to help His people remember who God is and who He promised to be to His people.**

Many of these memorial names are extensions of the name Yahweh.

- I. Jehovah (Genesis 2:4)**
- II. Jehovah Jireh (Genesis 22:13-14)**
- III. Jehovah Rapha (Exodus 15:26)**
- IV. Jehovah Nissi (Exodus 17:15)**
- V. Jehovah Mekoddishkem (Exodus 31:13)**
- VI. Jehovah Shalom (Judges 6:24)**
- VII. Jehovah Raah (Psalm 23:1)**
- VIII. Jehovah Sabaoth (Isaiah 1:24)**
- IX. Jehovah Tsidkenu (Jeremiah 23:6)**
- X. Jehovah Shammah (Ezekiel 48:35)**

This list gives you an overview of where we are going in this study.

If we have time, we will explore the other names of God that are mentioned in the Old Testament.



As we learn each one of these memorial names, we gain a deeper understanding of who God is and who God promises to be to His people.

Over the course of ancient world history, people married and became families. Families multiplied and became tribes. Tribes multiplied and became nations.

The bible tells us that a man named Abraham was the father of many nations. One of those nations was chosen by God to reveal His glory to the other nations. That nation was called Israel.

To help Israel accomplish their mission, God chose to bless Israel in ways that He would not bless the other nations. Those blessings were contained in an agreement between God and Israel. That agreement is called a covenant.

Beginning with Abraham, to help Israel understand and remember the promises of the covenant, God was given different names. These names are called the covenant names of God.

The first instance of this occurred in Genesis 22. God made a covenant with Abraham in Genesis 12. God's part of the covenant was that He would multiply His descendants and through one of those descendants He would bless all the nations of the world. Abraham's part was to fear God and obey Him.

God tested the faith of Abraham. In Genesis 21, Abraham and his wife Sarah had a son named Isaac even though they were very old. God told Abraham that His covenant promise would be fulfilled through his son Isaac.



In Genesis 22, God told Abraham to offer Isaac as a burnt offering on Mount Moriah. Abraham obeyed God.



He led Isaac to the mountain that God had chosen. He built an altar. He bound Isaac and placed him on the altar. He stood over his son with his knife raised. Then God stopped him.

Instead of offering His son, God told Abraham to offer a ram that was caught in thicket near their location. Abraham offered the ram instead of his son.

Abraham then called the name of that mountain Yahweh Yir'eh or Jehovah Jireh. (Genesis 22:14).

Genesis 22:14

14 And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

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The word Jireh comes from a Hebrew word that literally means "to see before." Abraham discovered that because God is Jehovah Jireh, God's mission

will never lack God's provision. In the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.

It was on this same mount, that Jesus was sacrificed as a lamb for the sins of the world.

The provider became the provision!

This revelation of God to Abraham would be critical to the faith of Abraham and His future descendants, Israel. God's mission will never lack God's provision.

And it is critical to the faith of the church of Jesus Christ today.

- **Like Abraham, the church has been given a mission.**

**Our mission is to make disciples for Jesus.
(Matthew 4:19; Matthew 28:18-20)**

- **Like Abraham, Jesus commands us to do difficult things to accomplish our mission.**

Jesus sent His disciples on a mission trip and told them not to take any supplies with them.

Luke 9:3

3 And He said to them, "Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money; and do not have two tunics apiece.

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- **Like Abraham, Jesus promises to provide what we need to accomplish our mission.**

Jesus said this to His disciples.

Matthew 6:31-34

31 "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'

32 For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

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Paul said this to the church at Philippi about their mission for Jesus.

Philippians 4:19-20

19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

20 Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

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God's mission will never lack God's provision because God is Jehovah-Jireh.

I have been on mission to make disciples for Jesus since I was a junior in high school. That is when I became a Christian.

- **The first difficult thing Jesus asked me to do was witness to my friends at school.**
- **The second difficult thing Jesus asked me to do was to be a preacher.**
- **The third difficult thing Jesus asked me to do was love my father.**

As I was given these difficult assignments, I was taught that I needed to trust Jesus to provide what I needed to accomplish the mission. I was given scriptures to read that were an encouragement to my faith. I was given books to read about Christians that were given some very difficult assignments from God, but they obeyed God because they believed that God would provide everything they needed.

When I first became a Christian, my father was struggling with his faith. His faith in God was

shattered by the death of my mother when I was three years old. On occasion, I would boast in God to my father that God was my provider. I told him that because I was on mission for Jesus, God would provide for my needs. My father was concerned about me. I was very zealous. He did not want me to be disappointed. He understood that the primary way God provides for our needs is by the money we earn through the work we do. One day I overheard my father say to someone on the phone, “Jerry believes that if his car breaks down, God will just give him another car.”

After graduating from High School, I asked God where He wanted me to go to college. He led me to Oklahoma Baptist University to prepare for the ministry.

OBU is a private school and it is very expensive. I had a small college fund. In it was only enough money to attend OBU for one year. But I obeyed God believing that He would provide what I needed to accomplish His mission for me. After the first semester, I was given an athletic scholarship that paid for my tuition, books, fees, and all my room and board until I graduated. When I graduated, I still had a significant portion of my college fund.

I met my late wife Debbie while I was in college and we married after I graduated. Before we married, we prayed about what God wanted us to do after I graduated. We believed he was leading me to attend seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, to continue my preparation for full time ministry. We obeyed God without knowing how we were going to pay for school and all our living expenses. My father died a few months after we started seminary. He left me a small inheritance that paid for my seminary education and helped us with all our expenses.

We had our first son when we were in seminary. We were not planning to have children until after I graduated from seminary. But God had provided everything we needed to add to our family. Five years later we believed that God was leading us to add to our family. I was the youth minister at FBC Yukon when he was born. We did not have any health insurance and all our savings was depleted after seminary. We were living from month to month or paycheck to paycheck. The hospital bill was going to be over \$3000. But we trusted God to provide what we needed. Before our second son was born, a very generous man in our church who was also our landlord felt prompted by the Lord to give us a gift that paid for our entire hospital bill.

We felt that God led us to be the Pastor at Western Hills in 1984. We made \$25000 a year and lived in a parsonage that the church owned. We were still living month to month. We had two cars. One of those cars I received from my father when he died.

The church began to grow. Our people were blue collar people with many young couples that were also living month to month. One of our couple's cars broke down and it was too expensive to repair. We prayed about it and felt led to give them one of ours. Then someone gave us another car that was better than the one we gave away. We did this three times with three different couples in our church. Every time we gave someone one of our cars, someone would give us another car that was better than the one we gave away. After this happened three times, I wished that my father was still alive to see what God had done.

One day I left a men's meeting at a restaurant on a Saturday morning. There was a young man standing outside asking people for help. I asked him what he needed. He said he needed \$100 to fix his motorcycle that was in the shop. He said he was trying to go see his mother who lived in another town in Oklahoma. I told him I would help him. I told him to get in my car and we would go to the bank to get

the money. I got the money, shared my faith with him, and dropped him off at the shop where his motorcycle was being fixed. I went to my office at our church campus. I drove into the empty parking lot. As I was parking, another car entered the parking lot. A couple in our church was in the car. They gave me a thank you card for performing their wedding. When I opened the card there was \$100 with the card.

We did not buy a home because God was not leading us to borrow money to buy one. This was a very difficult personal decision. I knew that buying a home was a good way to invest for the future. But we obeyed God believing that He would provide what we needed. After what I had seen God do, I felt that if God ever wanted me to own a home, He could prompt someone to give us one. After we served at Western Hills for 20 years, the church gave us the church parsonage.

My wife and I ended up having 8 children: 6 boys and 2 girls. We constantly prayed together and sought the Lord about the size of our family. Having one child is very difficult.

When we felt the Lord was leading us to try and have another child, we obeyed Him believing He would

provide everything we needed to have that child and raise that child. He did!

How did He do it?

He would prompt people to give us gifts.

- **The Dorrows (13k)**
- **The Haywood's gift for our Colorado trip(5K)**
- **Mike Mullet's mom gift for the china (500)**
- **The Hills(12K)**
- **3 other gifts of 5k(15K)**
- **The gift from Granddad Burgesses estate(7k)**
- **Many gifts of 1k or less that I cannot recall.**

My wife died in 2007 after a brief illness. Up until then we had educated all our 8 children at home. Before she passed, we prayed together about how the 3 children still in school should be educated if she did not survive. God led us to send them to a private Christian school. We had a small savings account by then, but we did not have the money to send them to a private school for even one year. After she died, people began to give us gifts for the education of our children. Those gifts eventually totaled over \$90,000. All my children graduated from that private Christian school.

Before my wife died, we talked about how I would manage as a widower with four children still at

home. She said I would remarry. 18 months after she died, I was led to marry my wife Sandra. This was a very difficult decision for both of us.

Sandra was a widow. Her late husband was a Pastor. She had four children. Everyone who knows Sandra believes that God provided what I needed, what my family needed, and what our church needed in a Pastor's wife through Sandra.

**God's mission will never lack God's provision
because God is Jehovah-Jireh.**

**Church, will you obey God when He asks you to do difficult things believing that He is Jehovah Jireh?
What difficult things?**

- Will you witness to your friends?**
- Will you give the first of your income to support the work of your local church?**
- Will you serve your local church the way God wants you to serve?**
- Will you make disciples the way Jesus made disciples? Will you join a discipleship group and love those folks like they are your family?**

For some of you...

Will you surrender to the call to preach?

Will you go where God wants you go to do what God wants you to do?

If you will obey God when He asks you to do difficult things believing that He is Jehovah Jireh, will you boast in the Lord's name?

One of the ways that you can do this physically is by extending your hands in front of you with your palms open. The Hebrew word for this is yadah. It occurs 114 times in the Old Testament. It is normally translated praise in our English bibles. But the physical expression means to thank God for His provision before you can see His provision.

(Prayer)

Lord Jesus you are Jehovah Jireh. I will obey you even when you ask me to do difficult things. I will trust you to supply what I need to complete your mission for me. I will always remember, on the mount of the Lord, you will provide!

