

What's In A Name?

*"The name of the Lord is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe."
Proverbs 18:10 (NIV)*

*"Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns.
He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son.
So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide" [Jehovahjireh]
Genesis 22:13-14 (NIV)*

*"...for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica."
2 Timothy 4:10 (NIV)*

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort..."
2 Corinthians 1:3*

The grandparents welcomed a new grandchild into the family and wondered what their children would name him. They did not have to wait long. To their horror the name was Demas! The shocked grandparents explained to the new parents the negative undertone that name carried. They quickly changed the baby's name to one without a negative history.

Mentioning the name of a loved one can elevate the mood of a depressed individual. Alternately hearing a certain name can cause distress. So, some names carry a lot of baggage and can create strong emotional reactions.

In Scripture we find numerous names for the Lord. These various names appear at significant times and speak to the context very well. Abraham had an extraordinary experience of the Lord's provision for him and called the Lord "Jehovahjireh". This name means the Lord will provide. Indeed, the Lord did provide for him. As Proverbs 18:10 indicates, God's people can run to the Lord and find comfort in one of His names just as Abraham did.

Recently I learned of a dear man of God who attempted suicide. His world had fallen apart. He was suffering such trauma that ending his life seemed a good solution to his

agony. When I prayed for him, I began my prayer by saying, "Father of mercies and God of all comfort be all of this to your dear, suffering, child Bill..." What I was doing was running to a relevant name for God and using it as a basis for calling the Lord to action on behalf of His child in a specific way.

Too often our prayers can be vague and thus ineffective. What is needed in times of trouble is to take a name for God that speaks to our particular problem. For example the name for the Lord, Jehovah Rapha - The Lord Our Healer - (Exodus 15:26) can be used effectively when praying for someone who has a physical illness or a broken heart in need of mending.

Today do you need to pray using a specific name of the Lord? Search for a particular name that can be your "strong tower". Make straight for it and the safety it brings. You can go on the Internet and find many biblical names for the Lord.

Here is a sample for you to begin your search.

12 Jehovah Names of Our God and Savior

Jehovah Jireh - The Lord Our Provider - Gen. 22:14

Jehovah Rapha - The Lord Our

Healer - Exodus 15:26

Jehovah Nissi - The Lord Our Banner - Exodus 17:15

Jehovah Rohi - The Lord Our Shepherd - Psa. 23:1

Jehovah Shalom - The Lord Our Peace - Judges 6:24

Jehovah Shammah - The Lord Our Presence - Ezekiel 48:35

Jehovah Tsidkenu - The Lord Our Righteousness - Jer. 23:6

Jehovah Sabaoth - The Lord of Hosts - 1 Sam. 1:3

Jehovah M'Kaddesh - The Lord Our Sanctifier - Lev. 20:8

Jehovah Tsur - The Lord Our Strength - Psa. 19:14

Jehovah Sel'i - The Lord Our Rock - Psa. 18:2

Jehovah Go'el - The Lord Our Redeemer - Isa. 49:26

However you find the names of the Lord seek them out and strengthen your faith in the safety of those strong towers.

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