

TOPIC: 7 Redemptive Names of God

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SUMMARY OF MESSAGE

Some names of God are unique to God Himself, eg. El Elyon, the Most High God, is unique to God Himself. Yet there are names connected to man; connected to the fallenness of man. These are the redemptive names of God. They release to us the goodness and grace of God.

Psalm 23 contains the redemptive names of God. I'd like to encourage you to memorize it. In memorizing, we capture the principle and truths and come out with our own version and weave them into our prayers. There are many promises but they are of no use until we receive, appropriate and let them become a part of our lives.

Let's run through the 7 names. Let's read Psalm 23.

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,

³ he restores my soul.

He guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk
through the valley of the shadow of death, [\[a\]](#)

I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

I. The Lord is my Shepherd – Jehovah Rohi

1. The good Shepherd loves the sheep even with his own life.

He is good. He is not just any god but the good God. The more we know and understand the more we appreciate, love and worship Him. He loves the sheep even with His own life. We can never love God on our own. None can.

1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we loved God but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

We need a personal revelation/experience of the love of God. Otherwise, it defaults to just mere religion. Why? It's because the source of love is God. Love comes from God, God is love. We cannot love until we have tasted His love. We cannot love because our love is selfish and carnal.

2. The good Shepherd is the door of his sheep.

A. Lordship Issues

Fundamentally, it is a lordship issue. In everything, He wants the sheep to go through the shepherd. He doesn't want the sheep to climb over the fence. What is this all about? It is about lordship and discipleship. Are you struggling to submit to Jesus as Lord? There is no such thing as having Jesus as Saviour alone. He is also Lord. That's why we are a discipleship making church. When we make decisions, are we seeking the Lord?

Being unequally yoked is an obedience issue. Will we stop being in company with corrupt people? Will we stop viewing pornography? At the end of the day, it's about lordship, an obedience issue. Will we come in submission with obedience and holiness? The root problem is a lordship issue because Jesus has come to give us more abundant life.

B. Colossians 1:17 – He holds all things together.

In a certain family, one of the children is the one who holds everything together. She is keenly aware that everyone is busy and she stands in as the one holding things together. It's the same with Jesus in our lives. He is like the hub of the wheel. Is Jesus your Lord? If He is not, that means some areas in our lives will be in disequilibrium. That means we have not brought areas in our lives under the lordship of Christ.

C. Salvation – Pasture-More Abundant Life!

As Jesus is our door, we have salvation. We will come in and go out and find pasture – nutritious grain and water. Over here, we are fed the Word of God; we are plugged into the Bodylife and we can experience the more abundant life.

3. The good Shepherd speaks to his sheep to lead and to guide them.

Decision Making and Guidance Issues – The good Shepherd speaks to His sheep to provide guidance. We have heard of discerning the will of God and of hearing the voice of God. How does God guide us?

Heb 8:10

¹⁰This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Heb 10:16

¹⁶"This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."

We are guided by 2 fundamentals, by the scriptures and the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. The Word gives the parameters and the Spirit gives the details. When He touches hearts and minds, we surrender to Him. Throughout rest of life, we will face the issues of His guidance again and again. We need to demystify the lingo. It's just about decision making.

2. I shall not be in want – Jehovah Jireh

Genesis 22:1-14

¹ Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

² Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about."

³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you."

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?"

"Yes, my son?" Abraham replied.

"The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

⁸ Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." And the two of them went on together.

⁹ When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

¹² "Do not lay a hand on the boy," he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son."

¹³ Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram ^[a] caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

First, I want to assure you that what was required of Abraham to do wouldn't be something required of us. In the passage, God was demonstrating to the principalities and powers that He could find a man who was willing to sacrifice his son just as He would His Son. This was a unique situation and God does not require us to do it.

Jehovah Jireh – It means the Lord will provide. The key, the principle to the Lord's providence is surrender and trust. Many people said that they have prayed hard or they have prayed soft. There is no such thing as praying hard or soft or making long or short prayers. He responds to faith, to our connecting with Him.

Matthew 6:25 - What shall we eat, drink wear or put on? What is the principle to having our needs met? It is the principle of surrender and trust.

Matthew 6:33

³³But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

It is about priority. It is about the reign and rule of God. It is about Jesus as Lord and Master. If He is, He will take care of everything. The onus is on the Master to provide, including the covering. This is the basic principle. If we seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, then all these things, ie jobs, clothing, relationship, etc, will be added to us.

Next, we are to seek His righteousness. What's righteousness? It is right standing with God.

1 John 2:15-16

¹⁵Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

¹⁶For everything in the world—the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does—comes not from the Father but from the world.

Don't pray the way the pagans pray. The 5 Cs – we need to have them. Yes, but let's not seek the way the world does. We need to seek first the kingdom. Otherwise the love of the Father is not connected to us. We will be running to the world if we do not know the love of the Father. Are we struggling with provision, no money to get married, bills, jobs, a sick family member, getting older, etc? Are we resorting to dishonesty or making misrepresentation?

1 John 5:4-5

⁴for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world? Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

By the divine exchange, we have a victory that overcomes the world. We can trust in the Lord. He will download names, propositions and ideas. That's how He guides us. In John 6, we have the feeding of the 5000. Jesus already knows what to do even though he asked the disciple. In Luke 5, the fishermen fished all night and caught nothing. They were professional fishermen but they caught nothing. Jesus told Peter to throw the net at the deep end. What's the principle? It is about surrender. Obey the word of the Lord. One reason for lack is because one does not come to the place of surrender, being disconnected from the flow and supply. Things won't just drop down from heaven. It is about discipleship.

3. He leads me besides (still) quiet waters – Jehovah Shalom

a. The importance of having the peace from God (Jeremiah 16:5)

The origin of peace comes from God. The word, 'peace' is 'shalom' in Hebrew. In Greek, it is 'eirene'. In Jeremiah 16:5, God said that He had taken peace from the land. What were the consequences when peace was taken away from them? They faced rapes, murder, invasion, etc.

Peace comes from God. When there is peace, there is well being. There is peace in this nation. Why? It's because we pray for it. One of the things we do at the monthly worship and intercession session is praying for Singapore. There is no peace for the wicked, no peace for such who disregard the ways of God. How do we have the peace with God? That brings us to the next point.

b. To have peace from God, we must first have peace with God (Romans 5:1)

We need to be justified. We need to start with having a relationship with God. When we have peace with God, then we have the peace of God. The peace of God will guard our heart and our mind in Christ Jesus. (Phil 4:6,7)

We must then know the God of peace to overcome the evil one and this world. (Romans 16:20)
The God of peace will fight our battles. Are we currently struggling with peace? Are you having fears of failed pregnancies, ill health, fear of man, fear of being embarrassed? The devil will steal, kill and destroy our peace. How do we have peace?

2 Pet 1:2

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

If we are ignorant of His word, we are not going to have His peace. That's why we spend many Sundays covering the names of God. How do I obtain favor of God? It is by knowing the names of God and connecting heaven to earth as we appropriate and receive.

4. He guides me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake – Jehovah Tsidkenu.

Romans 5:17

...much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

A gift is given to be received. What is righteousness? As mentioned, it is right standing with God. By it, we have confidence to come into the presence of God. How do we receive the gift? It is the divine exchange. 2 Cor 5:21

2 Cor 5:21

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

'Jesus who knew no sin...' means He was sinless and not deserving death. We deserve death but if we receive the gift of righteousness, we will live eternally. It is the righteousness of God, not yours or mine, not one attained by performance. It is a gift meant to be received yet many struggle with guilt and condemnation. We struggle because the devil reminds us of the past, i.e. it might have been a shot-gun marriage, abortion, a guilty conscience, shame, etc. Why do we have a guilty conscience? It's because we have not appropriated the forgiveness of God.

Romans 8:1,2

1There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. 2For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:1 is not for everyone. It is for people who walk according to the Spirit. Ignorance is not bliss. The problem we face is a problem about discipleship, a crisis about His lordship, obedience and abiding in the Word.

1 Timothy 1:19

'...having faith and a good conscience which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck.'

With a guilty conscience, we will have no confidence to pray or to serve God. We will trip and stumble. 1 Tim 1:19 calls upon us to have faith and a good conscience. All our sins, past, present and future ones are all forgiven by the Jesus. All our lawless deeds He remembers no more. What's the issue? It's about our conscience. As he has been cast out of God's presence, the devil resorts to accusing us directly. How do we handle a guilty conscience?

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

He forgives because the price has been paid by Jesus. Hebrews 10:19 says we have boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus. Our hearts have been sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

5.He restores my soul – Jehovah Rapha

Exodus 15:26

"...and said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals."

In some translations, instead of 'Rapha', the word, 'Rophe' is used. They are the same, meaning the LORD who heals. How does He provide healing? It is provided in the atonement.

Isaiah 53:4-5

⁴ Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵ 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.

Matthew 8:16,17

¹⁶When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. ¹⁷This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases."

When Jesus healed the sick, it was to fulfill what Jesus died for. It includes healing of the physical body, healing of the emotions and healing of one's mental state of mind. Many go about burnt out in the ministry. This is due to a lack of care for the body or being overcome by offences, hurts, wounds and aches. Healing is available. How?

James 5:16

¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

Confess your sins. Confidently means we don't tell the whole church. There is no such thing as a lone-ranger Christian. We must have someone to whom we can open our hearts to. We need to be in a cell group. Is the cell group perfect? Of course not. It is about sanctification. We interact with people to grow in spiritual maturity and discipleship. Don't say because there are problems in a cell, therefore we leave the group. We need a Christian community to help us.

Now, a sample prayer to pray for healing:

Praying the Scriptures for Healing:

*Father-God, I thank You for Your Covenant with me,
that You will not put any of the diseases of Egypt upon me.*

I thank You Lord Jesus that You are my Healer.

(Exodus 15:26)

I thank You that You know I am unable to always consistently obey all your commandments. (James 2:10)

I thank You that You have given me the gift of righteousness. (Romans 5:17b)

I am the Righteousness of God in Christ Jesus.

(2 Corinthians 5:21)

I thank You Lord Jesus that

You were crucified and died for me.

You were the Man of Sorrows and acquainted with grief. You were wounded for my transgressions.

You were bruised for my iniquities,

the chastisement for my peace was upon You.

By Your stripes I am healed.

(Isaiah 53:3-5)

Thank You Jesus that You Yourself bore my sins

*in Your body on the cross so that I might die to sins
and live for righteousness.*

You are my Righteousness.

By Your wounds, I am healed.

(1 Peter 2:24)

*Father, I thank You that You did not abandon Jesus
on the cross or in the grave. (Psalm 16:10)*

*You raised Him up from the dead by the power
of the Holy Spirit.*

Father, I ask that You strengthen and

*give life to this mortal body of mine by the power
of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:11)*

Lord, I receive Your Word to heal me. (Psalm 107:20)

*I thank You for Your Word which is health to my body
and strength to my bones. (Proverbs 3:8)*

I thank You that Your Word is life for me and

health for my whole body. (Proverbs 4:22)

*I thank You that I am mighty in spirit, I prosper in my soul
and I will walk in bodily health. (3 John 2)*

*In the Mighty and Powerful Name of the Lord Jesus Christ
Amen!*

6. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me – Jehovah Shammah.

Ezekiel 48:35

'...and the name of the city from that day shall be: THE LORD IS THERE.'

Matthew 1:23

The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel – which means, "God with us."

God is always there. Jesus was called Immanuel, God with us. God is everywhere. He is with us when we go to Zouk or to St James Power Station. We deliberately deaden our conscience to the voice of God when we go to questionable places. We may take the grace of God for granted. Some may think that they can enjoy pleasures of sin first, then repent later. God will never leave nor forsake us. Yet, He will also not be mocked. We ask questions, "Why?" or "Where is God?" when we suffer. He is right there besides us. Don't judge God by circumstances. Look at Calvary. His love was fully demonstrated at Calvary. When we were far from Him, He looked out for our return. In our pains, quarrels, work, situations, He is there besides us. This is our God. He is such a beautiful God. That's why we respond and worship Him.

Isaiah 43:2

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

God will not allow us to be in a situation we cannot overcome.

7. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over – Jehovah Nissi

Jehovah Nissi means the LORD is my banner.

Exodus 17:10-16

¹⁰ So Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. ¹¹ As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. ¹² When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. ¹³ So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword.

¹⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this on a scroll as something to be remembered and make sure that Joshua hears it, because I will completely blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven."

¹⁵ Moses built an altar and called it The LORD is my Banner. ¹⁶ He said, "For hands were lifted up to the throne of the LORD. The ^[a] LORD will be at war against the Amalekites from generation to generation."

We see that Moses lifted up his hands. What's the principle? It's the principle of victory in prayer. Prayer is a total dependence on God. Hands lifting up means to depend on God. Moses fought from victory.

2Cor 2:14

¹⁴ But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him.

The Christian life is always victorious. We are always overcomers. There will be sickness, wars, earthquakes but we will always overcome. In 2 Cor 2:14, the key word is "in Christ". Jesus is our victorious one. Are you experiencing victory or are you defeated and constantly discouraged? Are you not growing spiritually? There may be negatives in the cell group but we can still grow. Are you struggling with finances or undergoing spiritual attack? If you are married, it doesn't mean there are no quarrels but it means coming out stronger than before.

John 15:5

⁵"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

Phil 4:13

¹³I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

What's the key? The key is in Christ. We have our hands lifted up. We do so with total surrender to God. We go to Him confessing our faults. Find someone to pray with. That's why the altar is always there for you. God wants us to belong to a Christian community. Erase from our minds that there is a perfect cell group out there. We need to grow up. The problem is when we stagnate and don't grow. If God is our strength, our walk in life will be sure-footed.

Habakkuk 3:19

The LORD God is my strength. He will make my feet like deer's feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills.

What's the bottom line?

Is the Lord Jesus our Shepherd? If He is your Shepherd, He must be your everything!

In 2 Kings 1, King Ahaziah was injured and he sent men to inquire the god of Ekron whether he would recover from his injury. His men were intercepted by Elijah who had word for the king, saying, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?'

We have problems but we seek counsel from the world. Is there no God here? Who is your God? Is Jesus your shepherd? If He is, you will abide, obey His voice and follow. If Jesus is your Lord, He is there as your everything and you will experience the more abundant life. If He is, you will earnestly seek Him by faith and receive the grace you need. Heb 11:6

End.

Questions for discussion

1) What does it mean to have Jesus as Lord over our lives?

2a) What is the key principle to the Lord's providence?

2b) How do we get this principle to work?

2c) Are we currently struggling with finances, job, sickness, etc? Is there something we can learn from Peter who, despite his professionalism, heeded the Lord's instruction to drop the net into the waters again? What has the Lord been telling you to do?

3) What kinds of fears are you struggling with? How do you think they could be overcome?

4) The Christian life is supposed to be always victorious. Yet, many are still struggling. Do you know of someone who is struggling? You may want to do a few things:

- a) Drop him a note of encouragement

- b) Pray for him

- c) Counsel or disciple him if he wants to.

5) Share other things which you have gleaned from the message.

No condemnation, no comparison, no competition but only encouragement...