

**Agape House of Worship
Midweek Service & Bible Study**

**Topic: Names of God - Part 1
Text: Psalm 23**

**Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024
Facilitator: Pastor Bimbola Lawore**

INTRODUCTION:

Psalm 23 was written around 1000 BC; the authorship is attributed to King David. Bible Scholars believed David wrote this Psalm in his later years, this was a Psalm of him reflecting on his journey with God, from being a shepherd boy, serving king Saul in the palace, running for his life in the wilderness to being anointed as a King and fighting many battles as King. David's conclusion is that God was his Shepherd.

OVERVIEW OF PSALM 23

In Psalm 23, God presents Himself as our Great Shepherd. A shepherd cares for, leads, and guides the flock he oversees. That is what God does for us as His sheep. Jehovah Raah is the Hebrew name for Shepherd. When you look carefully within the description of the Jehovah Raah, you find many other names of God revealed. In this bible study series, we will take a look at the names of God revealed in Psalm 23, Jehovah Jireh, Jehovah Rapha, Jehovah Shalom, Jehovah Shammah, Jehovah Nissi, Jehovah Maooz, Jehovah Tsidkenu. All seven of these covenant promises are included in the description of the Shepherd. My prayer is that Psalm 23 is going to mean a lot more to you after this study.

JEHOVAH RAAH (YAHWEH RAAH), another word for shepherd in the Hebrew language is Rohi

Psalm 23:1a The Lord is my shepherd,

Yahweh is my shepherd. Shepherd means companion, friend; someone who cares for me, who feeds me, guides me, who gives me direction. The name points to a personal relationship "my shepherd". Jesus is our good shepherd, who came to guide us with a gentle hand.

- **Psalm 80:1** "Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock. You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth"
- **John 10:11** "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep" (The Good Shepherd)
- **Hebrews 13:20-21** "Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, ²¹ equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever." (The Great Shepherd)

SEVEN NAMES OF GOD REVEALED IN PSALM 23

1. JEHOVAH JIREH (YAHWEH JIREH)

Psalm 23:1b "The Lord is my Shepherd [to feed, guide, and shield me], I shall not lack." (AMPC)

Verse 1 tells us the Lord is our Shepherd, and we shall not want; that's Jehovah Jireh. He's describing Himself as the Lord who will provide for us so that there are no more wants. It is not a request but a declaration—the Lord is my Shepherd; therefore, I will not be in want for any good thing. We don't have to beg God for a thing.

QUESTION – How has God provided for you?

2. JEHOVAH SHALOM (YAHWEH SHALOM)

Psalm 23:2 “He makes me lie down in [fresh, tender] green pastures; He leads me beside the still and restful waters. (AMPC)”

Verse 2 says, He makes us lie down in green pastures; and leads us beside quiet waters. Notice it says He leads. He goes ahead of us and shows us the way. Think of the difference in saying that the Lord leads rather than drives. Other translations call it waters of rest or calm waters. When you think about it, shallow running water is noisy. When you get to the deeper waters, they can be moving swiftly, but it's still quiet and peaceful. So, in verse two, the Lord is showing Himself to be Jehovah Shalom, the God who gives us peace.

- **Judges 6:23-24** “But the Lord said to him, “Peace! Do not be afraid. You are not going to die.”²⁴ So Gideon built an altar to the Lord there and called it **The Lord Is Peace**. To this day it stands in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.
- **Isaiah 26:3** “You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.”
- **John 14:27** “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”
- **Philippians 4:7** “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

3. JEHOVAH RAPHA (YAHWEH RAPHA)

Psalm 23:3a “He refreshes and restores my life (myself)” (AMPC)

This name, Rophe, or Rapha, means “The Lord is my healer, physically and spiritually.”

- **Exodus 15:26** “²⁶ He said, “If you listen carefully to the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who heals you.”
- **Isaiah 53:5** “But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.
- **Psalm 103:1-3** “Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. 2 Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits 3 who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases”
- **Isaiah 61:1** “The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. **He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted**, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners”

QUESTION - How has God refreshed your soul?