



## CrossRoads Notes:

Turn your Bibles to Genesis 22:13-14

*Title: Enjoy Him As Jehovah-jireh*

*Theme: Grasping His Provision in Everyday Life*

*Series: Living in the Aroma of God's Grace*

Listen as I read Genesis 22:13-14, “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. And to this day it is said, ‘On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.’” (NIV) The King James says, - “And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh as it is to this day, ‘In the mount of the Lord it shall be seen.’” The New American Standard Bible says, “Abraham called the name of that place, ‘The LORD Will Provide, as it is said to this day, ‘In the mount of the LORD it will be provided.’”

**Introduction:** *These passages of Scripture are found in one of the most unusual, and at the same time, one of the most exciting accounts in the Word of God. Just as the Lord revealed Himself to Abraham, He reveals Himself to us through the Spirit, as He brings revelation and illumination of the written Word of God.*

**Proposition:** *I would propose to you that God, our heavenly father is the God who sees and provides as we walk in obedience to His will in our lives. The Lord is as much involved in our lives in practical ways on this earth as He is involved in our spiritual hearts as it pertains to eternity.*

There is so much for us to grasp in the Biblical account of Abraham, Isaac and the ram. However, in this message, the Holy Spirit of Christ wants you to grasp the truth of God being Jehovah-jireh in practical ways. The best way to protect yourself from giving up on the Lord is to have Holy Spirit revelation of what God told Abraham before the announcement of His covenant with him. Catch this powerful truth, “...The Word of the Lord came to [Abraham] in a vision: ‘Do not be afraid, [Abraham], I am your shield, your great reward.’” (Genesis 15:1)

**Interrogative Sentence:** *In what situations in life can a child of God expect the Lord to prove Himself as Jehovah-jireh? What is the meaning, the significance and realization of God being Jehovah-jireh?*

**Transitional Sentence:** *The first step to enjoying God as Jehovah-jireh is that the believer be willing to be Biblically tested. The opening Scripture to our teaching about Abraham’s faith says, “Some time later God tested Abraham....” (Genesis 22:1) God gives different dispensations – ways for mankind to show their love to Him. Obedience in these dispensations always opens spiritual eyes and hearts to the will of God and often enables the child of God to enjoy Him as Jehovah-jireh, even in practical ways.*

The word tested (*nāsāh*) in Genesis 22:1 is a verb meaning to test, to try, to prove. This word appears nearly forty times in the Old Testament, often referring to God testing the faith and faithfulness of human beings. (The Complete Word Study of the Old Testament) Testing from a New Testament understanding protects Christians from compromise and enables them to grasp God's will for them. (The Teacher's Commentary; Theological Dictionary of the New Testament) To be tested as Abraham was tested means to be subjected to a test for qualification. (Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary)

Let the Holy Spirit place this truth into your minds and illuminate it into your spiritual heart, "strong faith is often exercised with strong trials and put upon in hard service." (Matthew Henry Commentary) The Lord does not allow His children to be tested to see if they will fall. (James 1:13) The author of the trial brings on the testing so the children of God may discover His grace, empowerment and enablement. (1 Peter 1:7; Matthew Henry Commentary)

There is a wrong expectation found among the people of God. They think the longer they have served and have proven faithful in the storms of life, the less they will have to endure. Nothing is further from the truth. Please note, "Many former trials and testing will not supersede nor secure us from further trials and test." (Matthew Henry Commentary) The Lord knows just what dispensation you need to provide you the opportunity to show your love for Him. The right response in your present dispensation enables you to express to others His mercy and grace, equipping you to be a true light in a sin cursed world.

What testing is God setting before you? What are you to lay on the altar so you may enjoy the Lord as Jehovah-jireh in your life and in the ministry He has called you to?

**Transitional Sentence:** *After believing the promises found in God's Word and choosing to walk in obedience in their present testing, Christians can grasp the meaning of Jehovah-jireh.* The King James Bible says, "[And Abraham called the name of the place Jehovah-jireh...](#)" (Genesis 22:14 KJ) After Abraham was found faithful in the test, he enjoyed God's provision for the sacrifice to be made on the altar as a replacement of Isaac.

In this powerful teaching of God's provision in practical and eternal ways we read of Isaac asking a question, "[...Father... the fire and wood are here \[for the making of a sacrifice\] but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?](#)" (Genesis 22:7) "[Abraham answered, 'God Himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son...'](#)" (Genesis 22:8) Abraham's words to his son should not be understood as merely an attempt to calm Isaac's concern, but understood in the light of the fact that Abraham was truly expressing a sure confidence that God would provide – Abraham was expressing a genuine trust in God. (The Expositors Bible Commentary)

In order for you to be able to express a life that says, "My Lord is Jehovah-jireh," it is imperative that you understand the meaning of the name. Let the Holy Spirit of Christ reveal to you the truths of the Name of God expressed in Jehovah-jireh. The names

of God are His self-identifications expressing various aspects of His being. (Tyndale Bible Dictionary) In the Scriptures the name and person of God are inseparably related. In the Hebrew language, the term for “name” most probably meant “sign” or “distinctive mark.” In the Greek language, “name” (*onoma*) is derived from a verb that means “to know.”

Nathan Stone, writes, “There are a number of names compounded with Jehovah. Naturally these names owe something of their significance to the name Jehovah itself, which reveals the God of revelation, the God of moral and spiritual attributes – of righteousness, holiness, love, and therefore redemption. The God who stands in special covenant [with the people of God]... Most of these names of God arise out of some historical incident and portray Jehovah in some aspect of His character as meeting human need.” Jehovah-jire (**yir<sup>eh</sup>**) is a wonderful revelation of God’s character meaning, “The Lord will provide... to see or to provide or to foresee as a prophet, God always provides, adequate when the time comes.” (Nathan Stone) “It means ‘the Lord will see to it’ literally... ‘the Lord will provide.’” (Thru the Bible) Often the meaning of this name is expressed in the well known word, “Providence.” “Providence” means to provide. It means the hand of God is in human events. (Thru the Bible) The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia says providence involves foresight; “Applied to God, providence obviously includes the Divine foreseeing, but God in foreseeing has an even fuller and broader reference in view of the Divine overruling. Providence, then, is the preservation, superintendence, and teleological direction of all things by God. It is the Divine governance whereby all possible events are woven into a coherent pattern and all possible developments are shaped to accomplish the divinely instituted goal. Regarding individuals, ...the whole sweep of history stands under the providential ordering of God, so the individual life within history... [may be] called to faith, built up in discipleship and service...”

There are two powerful books in the Bible that clearly relate the truth of God’s provision in practical means. One is the Book of Ruth which shows us how we can be familiar about God’s providence in our private lives and teaches how we ought to keep a watchful eye out for and acknowledge Him in all our ways. (Matthew Henry Commentary) The second book which clearly shows God providing for human need is the Book of Esther. The whole Book of Ester is an illustration of God’s provision. God’s name is never mentioned in Esther nor is the Book of Esther ever quoted in the New Testament, not even a casual reference to it. (Thru the Bible) Yet the Book of Esther is “...the romance of providence, God directing this material universe in which we live today by His providence.” (Thru the Bible) This powerful book records how the “...those Jews who were scattered in the provinces of the heathen were taken care of, as well as those who were gathered in the land of Judea, and were wonderfully preserved,...” (Matthew Henry Commentary) “Grasping the truths found in the Book of Esther edifies and encourages the

people of God to look for the Lord's provision in the most difficult and dangerous times." (Matthew Henry Commentary)

The child of God who is sensitive to the Holy Spirit of Christ's leading, remembers God's provision, protection and enabling when a crisis comes into his life. During these times, the Holy Spirit recalls all the instances in which the Lord had proved Himself faithful. It is in times of crisis, trials and testing that the child of God needs to destroy the flesh, recall all the Lord has done and let the Holy Spirit speak through him the Name, Jehovah-jireh. In the midst of the testing, spiritual ears will hear the voice of God and spiritual eyes will be opened to see God's provision.

Do you have revelation of the meaning of the Lord's Name, Jehovah-jireh? The importance of knowing the meaning of this name can not be overestimated because of the striking evidence found throughout Scripture of God's faithful provision.

**Transitional Sentence:** *Understanding the meaning of Jehovah-jireh opens the spiritual heart to the significance of God being your provider.* Hebrews 4:14-16 says, "Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." Our key text today says, "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.'" (Genesis 22:14)

When Abraham gave this place a new name, he showed that he realized that this test was more significant than just the testing of His own faith. He had seen the Lord's provision through his whole life, and now he had witnessed God provide in the most challenging test he had ever gone through. Abraham could now express to all with ears to hear that the Lord will always provide. God will provide the oil of joy for ashes of sorrow, blessings for walking in full obedience, even obedience that leads to a brief season of sorrow. There is a powerful truth so easily missed in Genesis, "...And to this day it is said."

The incident of Genesis 22 is a prototype of the promise of Jesus Christ who was to come and be a replacement on the altar of sacrifice for the sins of the world. This Christ who came in fulfillment of God's providence, for the redemption of sinful mankind, gives us this daily promise, "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matthew 6:31-34) The child of promise to Abraham was a prototype of Jesus Christ who is God's promised provision of redemption for those of us who believe God's Words about Christ. Jesus' promise is, if we will seek the kingdom of God first there is the continued promise of meeting our daily needs. (Matthew 6:33; Luke 12:31)

Enjoying Him as Jehovah-jireh today involves a covenant of belief, much like that of Abraham's. Christians must 1.) Have an acceptance of the Word of God; 2.) Live a life of self-sacrifice; 3.) Live by faith instead by sight; 4.) Withhold nothing surrendering all to God; and 5.) Understand that perseverance to the end opens the door to every blessing, provision and protection of God who is Jehovah-jireh.

Do you live in the significance of the promises of God and Christ? If so, you live in the powerful truth, "The Lord will see, He will look upon thy need; and will hear thy prayer and provide that need." (The Pulpit Commentary)

**Transitional Sentence:** *Understanding the significance of the name Jehovah-jireh opens the door to living in the realization that the Lord is your provider.* We live in a sin cursed world – "To Adam He said, 'Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you,' 'You must not eat of it,' 'Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.'" (Genesis 3:17-19)

In the midst of the worse depression, in the midst of the worse health crisis, in the midst of a broken heart, if you allow Him, the Holy Spirit can awaken your spiritual heart to God's provision, love and care through trusting in Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord. Jesus said, "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33) It is Christ's desire that His disciples have peace in their spiritual hearts, no matter what troubles and conflicts they may face in this world. These words were spoken that you may take courage in all the Lord has called you to do and enjoy His peace. (Matthew Henry Commentary; The Bible Knowledge Commentary; The Bible Exposition Commentary) George Morrison once defined peace as, "the possession of adequate resources."

The Bible gives a powerful truth to enjoying the Lord's peace. Philippians 4:6-7 says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Let the Holy Spirit of Christ prepare your heart so your spiritual eyes may be opened to enjoy His provision in times of crisis, so you can live in the realization of His provision. (Genesis 21:14-19)

**In Closing:** *In this sinned cursed world, until the day you go home to be with the Lord – there will be trials and testing that will cause you to question the Lord's love for you, especially in His provision in this world.* Isaac being laid upon the altar and the ram being the replacement were prototypes of Jesus Christ. Jesus giving His life upon the Cross, getting victory over sin and death gives a whole new meaning to living. He provides satisfaction and perfect guidance in this life. (The Pulpit Commentary) It is

His promise, being God in the flesh, to provide for you in every way, glorifying Himself in and through your life just as he did through Abraham.

Be in constant prayer, allow the tests of this life to open your spiritual eyes to His provision, make sure you are living on the mount of the Lord spiritually. Express a living testimony that shows an on-looking world that God, in Christ is still Jehovah-jireh. Overcome all trials of this life by placing your soul under the blood of Jesus Christ and trust in the word of your testimony of God's past provision. (Revelation 12:11) There is something strengthening in the giving of a testimony that glorifies the power and faithfulness of God and Jesus Christ. (Thru the Bible; John Wesley Commentary)