

JEHOVAH JIREH: MY PROVIDER

BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION:

As believers, we all know that Jesus Christ is Jehovah Jireh. Repeatedly this particular aspect of who Jesus is comes to the fore in our lives and because our needs are many, it is easy for us to identify with *He who provides*.

In fact, it is so easy that we can often over emphasise this particular aspect of who Jesus is, alternatively, and this is what most often happens, we can often fail to fully understand what it means for Jesus to be Jehovah Jireh in our lives.

One of the most common phrases I have found myself using over the past couple of years is: “*Jesus is not your personal ATM*”. One of the reasons for this is that as Christians we have often misunderstood what it means for Jesus to provide for us.

He is NOT an ATM. He is not in your life and my life ONLY to provide us with cash. Does He provide us with cash? Yes He does. HOWEVER, this is but a portion of what He does. In fact, not only does He give us cash, but also He goes a step further and He gives us the power to create wealth:

Deuteronomy 8:18 Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁸ But you shall remember [with profound respect] the LORD your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore (solemnly promised) to your fathers, as it is this day.

But he does provide us with finances and he does promote us.

He is also not in my life ONLY to bless me with a job and to promote me. Yet sending promotion my way is one aspect of what he does, or what he provides, and we see that in the book of Psalms:

Psalms 75:6-7 King James Version (KJV)

⁶ For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south.

⁷ But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.

However, Jehovah Jireh is neither encompassed by nor limited to the provision of CASH and PROMOTIONS.

Often we ourselves have unnecessarily limited Christ based on our own limited understanding of what it means to be a provider. The word “Provider” is often used by society in the context of the breadwinner, which as we know is meant to reference the one who brings in the cash. However, Jesus is far more than our limited version of “*Provider*” and this is what I would like us to spend some time exploring this morning.

However, as a precursor to unpacking Jehovah Jireh, let us first look at how He needs first to be elevated to the status of Lord and Saviour in your life before any of these “Provider” functions can even be experienced / accessed. Those live streaming the message from their homes this morning would have received a message from Pastor Paul informing them about the type and strength of internet connection they would need to have at home for them to be

able to live stream this message. In other words, if you do not first have this type and strength of internet connection and capability, you will not be able to have access to the functionality of live streaming of the message this morning. In the same way, if you have not first made Jesus Christ your Lord and Saviour of your life, you cannot and will not be able to have direct access to Him as Provider / Jireh. Which leads me to my first point for this morning:

POINT NUMBER 1: HE CANNOT FUNCTION AS YOUR PROVIDER IF YOU HAVE NOT FIRST MADE HIM YOUR LORD

Jehovah means Lord, Jireh means Provider. He is Jehovah Jireh and not Jireh Jehovah. Jehovah Jireh – My Lord, My Provider.

When Jesus was sent to earth to be born as flesh amongst us, He was sent as the PROVISION.

John 3:16 New King James Version (NKJV)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

When Jesus was sent, he was the PROVISION before He operated and functioned as the Provider.

He was that which was being given, that which was being provided, the one given to you and I to become Lord of our lives. When he commenced his Ministry in his adult years, He then operated as the Provider. Why is this important? If you have not accepted him as the PROVISION, and made Him Lord of your life, then you make it impossible for Him to operate as the Provider in your life. He is Jehovah Jireh, He must be Lord of your life first, before he can provide for you. He was sent to be your provision first and your provider second; Lord first, Jireh second.

If you do not have a connection to the Service Provider of your internet you cannot access the bouquet of services and functionalities being provided by your Provider. The Internet / Network Provider has all the abilities, has all the functionalities, but if you do not have access to the Provider FIRST, then you have no access to all that the Provider offers. Are we together this morning?

Now that we are all clear about accessing Jesus Christ as Jehovah / Lord, let us proceed to look at what it is that our Lord provides.

POINT NUMBER 2: JEHOVAH JIREH PROVIDES NEW LIFE

This means that the old things can pass away and all things can become new if you are dead in your trespasses and sins, Jesus can provide you with new life, a life that you have never experienced before.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ [that is, grafted in, joined to Him by faith in Him as Savior], *he is* a new creature [reborn and renewed by the Holy Spirit]; the old things [the previous moral and spiritual condition] have passed away. Behold, new things have come [because spiritual awakening brings a new life].

Romans 8:11 Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹¹ And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you.

POINT NUMBER 3: JEHOVAH JIREH PROVIDES CONTINUED / SUSTAINED LIFE

This is manifested in the form of brand new mercies with every new day. In other words, if you woke up this morning and you are alive and not physically dead / deceased then you have continued life by God's grace and mercy over you. You have a brand new mercy that is particular to this day. If like my beautiful wife you recently celebrated a birthday then you have been given a brand new mercy of another year on this planet. You should celebrate and give thanks to Jehovah Jireh who provides these mercies to you.

Lamentations 3:22-23 English Standard Version (ESV)

²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases;^[a]

his mercies never come to an end;

²³ they are new every morning;

great is your faithfulness.

You are alive today. The breathe of God flows through your physical, mortal body and is keeping you alive. Does He provide to just anyone, all of who He is and all the promises that are contained in His Holy Word? No.

When you accept His first and most important form of provision, where he has provided us with a Saviour, we then receive access to His other multi-faceted forms of provision. But He is not a fast food restaurant or a drive through that is mandated to provide meals to anyone who wants and has the cash to buy.

POINT NUMBER 4: JEHOVAH JIREH PROVIDES ACCESS TO EVERY PROMISE

Prerequisite: to those who are followers of Christ Jesus. To those who have made Him Lord of their lives.

He died and rose again for the whosoever, so all can receive Him as Lord and Saviour but only those who receive Him as Lord and Saviour have an access / entitlement to all His forms and promises of provision.

The promises of God in His Word are for His people and can be depended upon. These are the things we have (present tense). We have already been provided with thousands of promises that are located in His Word. All we need do is continue to profess until we see them manifested in the natural as Pastor Tracy shared with us this past Sunday. Jehovah provides us with access to ALL the promises in God's Word: every single one of them:

2 Corinthians 1:20 Amplified Bible (AMP)

²⁰ For as many as are the promises of God, in Christ they are [all answered] “Yes.” So through Him we say our “Amen” to the glory of God.

JUST A FEW OF HIS PROMISES THAT I CAN ACCESS THROUGH JEHOVAH:

Exodus 14:14 Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you while you [only need to] keep silent *and* remain calm.”

Isaiah 40:29 Amplified Bible (AMP)

²⁹ He gives strength to the weary,
And to him who has no might He increases power.

POINT NUMBER 5: JEHOVAH JIREH PROVIDES BETTER THINGS FOR US

Pastor Paul led us in prayer on Monday evening concerning how Jesus Christ provides us access to *the better things* that accompany salvation.

Hebrews 6:9 Amplified Bible (AMP) - Better Things for You

⁹ But, beloved, even though we speak to you in this way, ^[a]we are convinced of better things concerning you, and of things that accompany salvation.

What is one example of the better things that accompany salvation?

Romans 6:23 New King James Version (NKJV)

²³ For the wages of sin *is* death, but the ^[a]gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

POINT NUMBER 6: When Jesus is Lord of our lives He gives us HIS Peace.

We allow Him as LORD to operate in our lives as Jehovah Shalom – The Lord of Peace.

John 14:27 Amplified Bible (AMP)

²⁷ Peace I leave with you; My [perfect] peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be afraid. [Let My perfect peace calm you in every circumstance and give you courage and strength for every challenge.]

IN CLOSING:

Genesis 22:2-14 Amplified Bible (AMP)

² God said, “Take now your son, your only son [of promise], whom you love, Isaac, and go to the region of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”

³ So Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and then he got up and went to the place of which God had told him...

⁵ Abraham said to his servants, "Settle down *and* stay here with the donkey; the young man and I will go over there and worship [God], and we will come back to you."

⁶ Then Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on [the shoulders of] Isaac his son, and he took the fire (firepot) in his own hand and the [sacrificial] knife; and the two of them walked on together.

⁷ And Isaac said to Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Isaac said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?"

⁸ Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself a lamb for the burnt offering." So the two walked on together.

⁹ When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood, and bound Isaac his son and placed him on the altar, on top of the wood.

¹⁰ Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.

¹¹ But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" He answered, "Here I am."

¹² The LORD said, "Do not reach out [with the knife in] your hand against the boy, and do nothing to [harm] him; for now I know that you fear God [with reverence and profound respect], since you have not withheld from Me your son, your only son [of promise]."

¹³ Then Abraham looked up and glanced around, and behold, behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up for a burnt offering (ascending sacrifice) instead of his son.

¹⁴ So Abraham named that place The LORD Will Provide. And it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be seen and provided."

Genesis 22:14 Hebrew: YHWH jireh. Lit *the Lord will see* (in the sense of "see to it").

Genesis 22:14 This is a prophetic statement which looks ahead to the fact that the Messiah, the Son of God, would be the ultimate sacrifice, chosen and provided by the Father.

The LORD

(Yah·weh)

Hebrew: Jehovah = 'the existing One' 1) the proper name of the one true God.

Will Provide.

(yir·'eh)

Hebrew: 1) to see, look at, inspect, perceive, consider

Hebrews 11:19 Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹⁹ For he considered [it reasonable to believe] that God was able to raise *Isaac* even from among the dead. [Indeed, in the sense that he was prepared to sacrifice Isaac in obedience to God] Abraham did receive him back [from the dead] figuratively speaking.

In this passage of scripture, we discover that Abraham knew God's character and power well enough to trust that if God took Isaac's life, because of all God's other promises about Isaac, Abraham knew God would fulfill His word even if He had to raise Isaac from the dead in order to have His Words over Isaac's life fulfilled. Abraham had faith in his Provider and he called the place "God will provide."

Here the word "Provide" in Hebrew also has the meaning of "see to it," which is similar to the name a woman named Hagar calls the Lord in Genesis 16:13 – "The God who Sees."

- That Hebrew word also means "perceive" and "experience."

When Abraham calls God Jehovah-Jireh, he is not just saying, "God gives the goods!" He is saying, "You see/experience all this need of mine and make provision for it."