

THE NAME JEHOVAH

3. Jehovah Nissi

Leader's Notes



INTRODUCTION

One of the names we find for God in the Old Testament, is the name 'Jehovah' or 'Yahweh'. It was a name so sacred the Jewish people used another name in its place! We have discovered that there are seven titles or aspects of God linked to that name. The first two are Jehovah Jireh and Jehovah Rapha. In this study we will look at a third, 'Jehovah Nissi', which means 'The Lord is my Banner'. This is found in Exodus 17.

Scripture Reading: Exodus 17:8-16

The Children of Israel were on their way to the Promised Land. God had promised to give them this land as their inheritance. However they faced opposition. As they made their way through the desert they were attacked by the Amalekites.

- ✧ Who were the Amalekites and what did they do to Israel? Genesis 36:12, Deuteronomy 25:17-18
(The Amalekites were the descendants of Esau. As the Children of Israel were making their way through the desert, the Amalekites came against those who were lagging behind and cut them off.)
- ✧ What did Moses do while Joshua and the army fought the Amalekites? Exodus 17:9
(Moses stood on a hill overlooking the battle field, with his hands raised, holding the staff of God.)
- ✧ Why do you think the people began to lose the battle whenever Moses lowered his hands? Discuss.
- ✧ What did Aaron and Hur do that helped turn the battle around? Exodus 17:12
(They put a stone under Moses, so he could sit down, and then they stood on either side of him and helped prop up his arms.)
- ✧ What lessons can we learn about prayer and spiritual warfare from this story? Share.
(It's important to persevere and not give up. We need to support one another.)
- ✧ Moses built an altar to thank the Lord for the victory. What did he name it, and what did it mean? Exodus 17:15-16
(He named it 'The Lord is my Banner', which loosely meant 'Hands were lifted up to the throne of the Lord.)

During ancient times armies would often fly a flag on a pole with an insignia on it. The flag bearer would stand on higher ground so the soldiers could see it. This identified who the army belonged to and was a focal point

for the soldiers to gather around. Moses was declaring that the name of the Lord was his banner. The people of Israel belonged to the Lord, and he was the one who led them into battle and gave them the victory.

- ✧ According to Isaiah, who would become a banner for the people in the future? Isaiah 11:1, 10, John 12:32

(The Stump of Jesse, or the Root of Jesse, who is Jesus Christ, would become a banner for the peoples. Jesus would be lifted up when he died on the cross.)

- ✧ Share a time in your life when you have called on the name of Jesus and he has delivered you from a dangerous or difficult situation.

CONCLUSION

We are on a journey into the inheritance God has promised us through the Lord Jesus Christ, and just as Israel faced opposition on their journey, so will we. However the Lord will stand with us in this battle. It isn't a physical battle, but a spiritual one, and God has provided the weapons we need. Our banner is the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. His victory becomes our victory, when we set his name up as our banner.

Psalm 20:5 "We will sing for joy over your victory, and in the name of our God we will set up our banners."