

Genesis 22:14

And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-Jireh: as it is said *to this day*, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

One of the names of God that has had a very real and personal impact on my life is Jehovah-Jireh. While I was on deployment to Bermuda, with the US Navy in the spring of 1984; the Lord spoke to me, to go to college at Christ For The Nations, in Dallas, Texas. I absolutely did not want to go, but in the end I chose to obey. During my first year of school, my oldest daughter was conceived. All of a sudden the expenses of school with the cost of living, was blown way out of my earning capacity with this pregnancy. I was working three different jobs and going to school full time. At the end of my first year I was burnt out. I spoke to the Lord, and honestly told Him where I was with everything. I reminded Him that I did not want to go to school in the first place, and that I was no longer willing to work myself to death to stay there. I told Him that either He would provide for me and my family as our Jehovah-Jireh, or I would quit school and go back into the Navy. Soon after, a fellow student came to me and gave me a word from the Lord. In that word was the promise of a new business, and eventually a full-time call into ministry. What transpired from that point on for the next ten years was nothing short of the Favor of God in my finances. Just as God had provided Abraham with a sacrifice outside of Isaac, so also the Lord faithfully provided for me as well.

Another story that is very dear to me is when my oldest daughter broke her arm years later. The break was so bad that the doctors wanted to do emergency surgery. They called in several specialists, and the final cost was well over ten thousand dollars. After all of the bills came in, I simply took them into my office and placed them on my desk. I laid my hands upon the pile of bills and prayed. I wanted the Lord to know that I would do whatever He wanted me to do, including taking on additional work to pay them in full; but that if my daughter belonged to Him as His Word said, then those bills belonged to Him also. Within a few weeks everything that was needed to satisfy those medical bills came in. Once again the Lord showed me in a very personal way, that truly He is my Jehovah-Jireh.

Unless you have ever been in a situation that is way beyond your ability, you might never experience the Lord in such a personal way. Sometimes we cry and complain when we are placed in such difficult times, but it is there that we learn to truly place all of our care upon Him! Had these and other difficult times never occurred in my life, I could not speak to you with such confidence about God's amazing ability to provide in any situation. Whether it is in finances, health, relationships or even eternal salvation; our God is Jehovah-Jireh, my provider. He is not simply Jehovah-Jireh for Abraham and the great patriarchs of the bible, but mine as well. What about you dear one, is our God your Jehovah-Jireh in every area of your life? Do you trust Him with your eternity, but not your finances? I exhort you to repent today, and to seek God according to His Word and not your understanding alone!