



Shalom B'Shem Yeshua,

God—On the Move!

The Lord wants us to remind you that He is always working on your behalf, mostly behind the scenes, even while you sleep! (See Psalm 121:4.) Yeshua the Messiah told His talmidim, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working" (John 5:17). Our God is on the move. Even when the enemy comes in like a flood, as we read in Isaiah 59:19, the Spirit of the LORD moves to lift up a standard against him. Although we do not want to belabor an emphasis on "Gospel Grammar," we should consider the possibility that the comma after the word "flood" might be better placed after the word "in." Then the verse would read, "When the enemy comes in, like a FLOOD the Spirit of the LORD will lift up a standard against him." That gives us a picture of our Messiah rushing to our aid like a DELUGE OF DEFENSE!

The God of the Holy Scriptures has many names, each of which reveal a different aspect of His character. We have chosen to focus on three of these names that reveal God's continual moving and working to bring light out of darkness, order out of chaos, peace out of turmoil, blessing out of cursing, and precious things from the vile.

Elohim: The Creator at Work

Elohim, the first name by which the God of Israel is revealed, shows us a Great Creator, moving, working, and speaking order out of chaos and light out of darkness. This is the God who can take bad situations in our life and bring about good, setting all things "b'seder" (in order) by His mighty power. *Elohim* is the God whose creative power we can tap into once we recognize its availability to us through the Creator's son, Yeshua. Elohim continues His creative works through His children today, as we yield to Him, and allow Him to work through us.

The first time the word MOVE is used in the Holy Scriptures is in the context of Elohim's work of creation. What moved? The Spirit of God (Ruach Elohim): "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters" (Gen. 1:1-2). The word moved (Hebrew: nasah) can also be translated "hovers" or "broods," from which we get the image of the Spirit as a dove—in motion. We desperately need God's Spirit moving today, in our individual lives, in our congregations, in the U.S., and in the world. When the Ruach Elohim moves, there is order out of chaos, light instead of darkness, and victory over the works of the enemy.

It is the heart of Elohim to always move from darkness to light (as in each day—from evening to morning). Andrew Jukes, in his classic book **The Names of God**, beautifully describes God's purpose in creation: "For the fallen creature begins nothing, continues nothing, perfects nothing. Each stage of the restoration is the direct result of the unsought word and work of 'Elohim.' At every step again and again we read, 'God said,' and 'God made.' Throughout, all is of God, whose name and nature in itself contains the pledge the He cannot rest till His fallen creation is restored and re-created."

Elohim is still moving by His Ruach to restore and re-create lost souls. He invites us to join Him in this supernatural reclamation project by letting our light shine - holding forth the Word of Life, and doing the works ordained by God from the foundation of the world. Born-again believers are truly the "workmanship" of Elohim, created in Messiah Yeshua (Eph. 2:10).

El Olam: Everlasting Love

El Olam (the Everlasting God) is the Hebrew name for the God who has no beginning and no end. He is the God whose love endures forever and is constantly flowing out to His creation. We recognize El Olam in the following verse from the Tanakh: "The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: 'Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you' " (Jer. 31:3). The love of El Olam draws with "chesed," a word almost always translated as loving kindness or kindness, but which can occasionally be translated as grace, mercy, or steadfast love. This love is love in motion. It draws. It reaches out to the one upon whom El Olam sets His affection. In Jer. 31:3, it is "all the families of Israel." In the Brit Hadasha, we find El Olam as the initiator of love: "And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him... We love Him because He first loved us" (1 Jn. 4:16, 19).

El Olam is the first to love. His love is always on the move. His mercy (chesed) is from "everlasting to everlasting" (Ps. 103:17). His love never tires, but continually empowers: "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, (El Olam) the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength" (Is. 40:28-29).

El Olam continues loving His own to the end of their lives. We receive many letters from Jewish Jewels partners in their 80's, even 90's, who are experiencing the fulfillment of El Olam's promise in Isaiah 46:4: "Even to your old age, I am He, and even to gray hairs I will carry you! I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry and will deliver you."

The "El" in El Olam is the Hebrew word for "God" and expresses the idea of "power." There is no power greater than the power of love. As we were writing these words, the Lord reminded Jamie that it was the 105th birthday of Julie, a regular viewer of Jewish Jewels, who you may have seen signing her name to the "Lamb's Book of Life" banner at our Messianic synagogue. At 102, Julie discovered that the Love of God endures forever, because God is Love, and God is forever.

Yehovah Yireh—God our Provider

God as provider is often known as "Jehovah Jireh" by those unfamiliar with the Hebrew language. Since there are no "j's" in Hebrew, a more accurate translation would be *Yehovah Yireh*. The exact pronunciation of the Hebrew Tetragrammaton YHVH is unknown, but we do know that the name reveals God's desire, willingness, and ability to provide for His children.

The name *Yehovah Yireh* first appears in Genesis 22, where God miraculously provides Abraham a sacrificial ram in the place of His son. *Yehovah Yireh* can be translated, "God will see to it." In other words, God will make a way. God will provide. "*Yireh*" comes from the Hebrew verb *ra'ah*, which means "to see." It is translated as "provide," since God sees the future as well as the past and the present and is able to anticipate and provide for what is needed.

We recently experienced an amazing miracle of provision of our own at Jewish Jewels. For a while, we have sensed the need to downsize our ministry space since we no longer need a large area to store TV tapes (since going "digital"). Neil contacted the rental agent with whom we have had good relations for over ten years and told him that we wanted to move to a smaller facility. The agent said that he wanted to keep us as tenants and had a location five minutes west of us, a bit smaller, for \$1,000 less a month in rent. He was prepared to completely renovate the space to suit our needs.

However, he thought it might be a problem for us since there is a synagogue in the plaza, two doors down from us. Neil smiled and said, "No. It won't be a problem for us. It may be a problem for them." The end, or rather, the beginning of the story is that, as of May 1, 2012, we are at our new location, waiting for our first contact with our neighbors from the synagogue.

Our God provided exceedingly abundantly, above all that we asked or imagined. He was moving behind the scenes (as He is in YOUR LIFE), and we were unaware of His forthcoming provision. Our new address is 10112 W. Oakland Park Blvd, Sunrise, FL 33351. Come visit us when you are in the Ft. Lauderdale Area. In the meantime, please pray for the members of the nearby synagogue.

Many times, Yehovah Yireh has our answer "waiting in the wings" even before we pray and ask: "It shall come to pass that before they call I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear" (Is. 65:24). The late David Wilkerson, in his excellent book **Knowing God by Name**, makes a fascinating connection between the binding of Isaac and the birth of Rebekah which demonstrates how Yehovah Yireh provides. In Genesis 22:23, we read, "And Bethuel begat Rebekah." At the very moment Abraham was raising the knife over Isaac, his nephew Bethuel was raising the girl whom God would eventually give to Isaac as a wife. It is as if the Holy Spirit were telling Abram, "Yes, I have kept My promise by saving your son. I have also provided for your heir; your brother's wife has already given birth to the girl Isaac will marry." Wilkerson points out: "Long before we are even born, He is at work forming and shaping the circumstances of our lives."

Wilkerson maintains that the full revelation of "Jehovah Jireh" (Forgive him for the J's!) is found in Philippians 4:19: "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Messiah Yeshua." Yehovah Yireh is moving at this moment to supply believers in Yeshua with not only physical and mental needs, but faith and strength to do His will through the power of the Holy Spirit. David Wilkerson's book is deep, with an unusual focus: the revelation of God's names as His people needed them—in their moments of deepest crisis. Are you facing a crisis? This book will minister to you!

Moving With the Cloud

When Moses had finished the work of setting up the tabernacle of meeting (ohel moed) as commanded by the LORD, a cloud (anan) covered it, and the glory (kavod) of the LORD filled the tabernacle (mishkan) (Ex. 40:34). This tent of meeting accompanied the Children of Israel in their wilderness wandering. The cloud of the LORD above the tabernacle was a visible sign, giving direction and instruction to God's people: "When the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, the children of Israel went onward in all their journeys. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. For the cloud of the LORD was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys" (Ex. 40:36-38).

The Cloud appears in the Brit Hadasha as well as in the Torah. God the Father speaks out of a cloud at the beginning of Yeshua's ministry, and again on the Mount of Transfiguration. Peter, James, and John, disciples of Yeshua, were with Him on the Mount when Moses and Elijah appeared to talk with Him. (They represent the Law and the Prophets.) A cloud overshadowed them, and a voice spoke, saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him" (Luke 9:34-35)! The God of Israel was commanding a move: from the old interpretation of the Torah given by the rabbis, to the new interpretation given by the Messiah.

Is there a Cloud that moves today? Yes. The Spirit of God is the Cloud that leads and guides us. We have personally experienced the Cloud moving this year, leading us to sell our home and move to a condominium apartment. Our sons are grown and on their own—Jonathan in Gainesville, Florida, and Jesse in New York City. The Lord sovereignly led us to Kings Point, a community of mostly retired, active Jewish senior citizens. At least three pre-believing Jewish people have told us how thrilled they are that we will be their neighbors. It looks like our new home will be a haven for hungry hearts.

Seeking a Move of God

The God of Israel has built into His People a desire to know Him and to experience Him—to see The Cloud moving. However most of the time, they seek Him in the wrong places. Hundreds of thousands of Israelis, for example, are making pilgrimages to so-called "holy sites"—the tombs of the sages—in search of miracle cures and meaning. We have had personal experience with this. A dear rabbi and his wife in Jerusalem, whose home we have been in many times, have traveled a number of times to the Ukraine to pray at the grave site of the rabbi who began their particular sect of Rabbinic Judaism. These Israelis, hungry for the presence of God, are seeking Him in the wrong places.

Please pray for us as we follow the Cloud this August up to Zion for our 2012 Mercy Mission. As we blow the shofar, we desire with all our heart that God's people **hear Him** saying, "This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!" May the LORD anoint us to minister healing in Yeshua's name. May we have appointments to speak about the meaning and purpose of life—to know God and enjoy Him forever in the Way that He has provided. When our Mercy Mission mishpochah visits the Garden Tomb, Yeshua's grave will be empty. We pray to a God who raised His Son from the dead! His life-giving Spirit resides in us... "In Him we live and move and have our being" (Acts 17:28).

PLEASE BEGIN TO SEND IN YOUR EXTRA LOVE GIFT FOR ISRAEL!

Pressing On

We sense God re-aligning and re-assigning His people in these crucial times. It's as if He were saying, "I need you HERE, or I want you THERE." Most of us resist change, but God blesses us as we obey. He is on the move, and we must move with Him. It is time to put up our sails and let the Holy Spirit fill them and direct us. If we resist, we stagnate. If we yield, we grow.

God has more for each of us. Moving forward is good, and even safer, for us. (It is harder to hit a moving target.) We should all agree with Rabbi Saul (Paul) in his declaration to the believers in Philippi: "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Messiah Yeshua has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead. I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Messiah Yeshua" (Phil. 3:12-14).

P.S. Neil turns 76 this month.

Please pray for continued good health and power to serve the Lord.



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