

SERMON NOTES - His Name is... ARMIES (& Banner & Peace)

These notes are designed to be read along with the associated audio / video message

Using these notes and this message

There are 3 ways to watch or listen to this message, and various ways to use it:

Access to the Message	Using the Message
The full video message (around 26 minutes) can be watched on our website .	Play the Video OR Preach it Yourself → Small Group Discussion In larger settings. See guidance notes below .
A shorter version (7-11 minutes) with small group discussion questions can also be found on our website.	In small groups. See Notes below .
An audio podcast - on our app , soundcloud , or itunes	Personal listening

Below you will find the following notes ...

[1 - A summary of this talk, and various ways and Ideas for how to use the themes](#)

[2 - How to Preach a Sunday Sermon](#)

[3 - How to lead a Small Group](#)

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1 - A summary of this talk, and various ways and Ideas for how to use the themes

Due to the nature of the video messages, a sermon preached on video/TV generally contains much more information than should be presented when preaching "live".

Video messages also don't include as many personal stories and anecdotes as would be shared in a personal sermon.

For this reason, when preaching this message "live", it is advisable for you to pick one or two of the main themes, ideas, or points below, and focus on them, adding your own stories and experiences, and your own personality.

THE BIG IDEA

God's invisible armies and power can be accessed by Faith and Prayer and when we do this nothing is impossible and no obstacle is too great.

THE MAIN THEMES & SUB IDEAS EACH OF WHICH COULD BE DEVELOPED INTO A SERMON ON ITS OWN

You could use one or more of the following themes and ideas and craft a whole sermon out of any of these:

1. Yahweh Sabaoth: The Lord of Hosts

- Main Idea: God's supreme command over all heavenly and earthly armies.

- Scripture References:
 - 1 Samuel 17:45: David confronts Goliath in the name of Yahweh Sabaoth.
 - 2 Kings 6:15-17: Elisha's servant sees God's invisible army of horses and chariots of fire.
- Sub-Points:
 - God's invisible resources are greater than any visible threat.
 - Faith in God's supremacy provides confidence in overwhelming situations.

2. Yahweh Nissi: The Lord My Banner

- Main Idea: God as the rallying point and source of victory for His people.
- Scripture Reference:
 - Exodus 17:15: Moses names the altar "The Lord is My Banner" after victory over the Amalekites.
- Sub-Points:
 - A banner signifies unity, identity, and protection.
 - Raising hands in prayer represents reliance on God's power (mirroring New Testament practices of prayer and surrender).

3. Yahweh Shalom: The Lord Is Peace

- Main Idea: God as the source of peace and wholeness.
- Scripture Reference:
 - Judges 6:24: Gideon names the altar "The Lord Is Peace" after an encounter with God.
- Sub-Points:
 - Shalom signifies completeness, safety, and well-being.
 - God's peace empowers believers to act with confidence despite challenges (e.g., Gideon's transformation from fear to a leader).

Integration into Believers' Lives

- Application of Yahweh Sabaoth:
 - Reassurance of God's omnipotence and divine support in difficult times.

- Application of Yahweh Nissi:
 - Encouragement to find identity and strength under God's authority.
- Application of Yahweh Shalom:
 - Experiencing and embodying God's peace in all circumstances, leading to confidence and faith in action.

By understanding and applying these names of God, believers can develop a deeper, more dynamic faith, recognizing God's hand in every situation and relying on His multifaceted nature to navigate life's challenges.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BASED ON THIS TALK

1. Discussion Question on Yahweh Sabaoth:
 - How can we apply the understanding of God as "The Lord of Hosts" (Yahweh Sabaoth) in our daily struggles and challenges? What specific situations in your life might benefit from this perspective?
2. Discussion Question on Yahweh Nissi:
 - What does it mean for you personally to consider God as "The Lord My Banner" (Yahweh Nissi)? How can this understanding influence the way you approach conflicts or leadership roles?
3. Discussion Question on Yahweh Shalom:
 - In what ways have you experienced God as "The Lord Is Peace" (Yahweh Shalom) in your life? How can you cultivate and share this peace with others in your community?
4. General Application Question:
 - How do the different names of God enhance your understanding of His character and attributes? Discuss how this deeper knowledge can impact your relationship with God and your faith journey.

2 - How to Preach a Sunday Sermon

The SUNDAY sermon is normally not an in depth teaching time (this is usually done in other times and settings). Usually the Sunday Sermon achieves 3 main goals:

- It attracts non believers,
- It inspires believers and
- It educates everyone.

A sermon should not be too long (30 minutes is a good maximum time).

The mood and tone is important as people will often remember a FEELING more than information. People must sense and feel the love, joy and excitement of Jesus and the Christian life along with being motivated by GRACE, rather than legalism, guilt or religion.

A 4-Point Checklist for Sermon Preparation ...

- 1) You** must be able to articulate in your own mind what the talk's one big message is. You should be able to state this in one sentence before you give your talk, and this would also work well as the introductory sentence of your talk..

**1 BIG
IDEA**

It should be a compelling and motivating idea that is captivating and important, and it must have HELPED YOU in your life. If it is real for you, it will be real to those who hear you. As a general guideline, this idea should inspire people to faith, hope and action, and it is based on joy rather than on legalism or duty.

- 2) To** back up and support your big idea, you should have around 3 main points which are helpful and along the same theme. People should be able to follow your logical progression and see how the three points back up the main idea. You can have more than three points if you are making the same point from several different angles OR if you are using several different Bible verses to support the same idea.

3
— — —
SUPPORTING
Points

- 3) For** each point you make, you should try to have one **story** or a **personal example** that illustrates what you are saying. They give a window to your sermon, allowing light to shine in, and bringing your points to life. Without illustrations, your sermon could feel like it's all "facts". Illustrations and stories engage people's imagination and emotions, and can show how the truths you are speaking of have impacted and affected you in a personal way.

**ILLUSTRATIONS
&
STORIES**

- 4) There** should be a practical way that people can apply what you have said – it should change people's lives, and you should conclude with this application. There is a **general** life application – "how will I live differently going forward?" – and there is also an **immediate** application – "what is God saying to me right NOW?" Encourage people to "do business with God" right then and there and to make decisions or commitments if necessary. This "life application" can be a good conclusion to your talk, OR the main idea that you started with can also be helpful as a concluding summary.

**PRACTICAL
APPLICATION
AND SUMMARY**

3 - How to lead a Small Group

Remember that the aim of the small group is to foster discussion and community, rather than for the leader or one individual to preach to everyone.

1 - Often an **Icebreaker question** is a great way to start discussion. You could ask a question like those below:

- What were the highs or lows of your week?
- What is your earliest memory?
- If you had to describe yourself as one animal, what would it be and why?
- What is your favourite type of holiday destination?

2 - Next, **read the passage**. You can ask various people in the group to help by each reading a portion of the passage.

3 - These are the **main questions** to ask to understand the passage:

- What is the main message of this talk / passage?
Allow discussion and even diverging from the main topic if it is helpful.
- What did you find particularly helpful or challenging?
- What did you not fully understand?
- What can we do **PRACTICALLY** in response to this teaching?

4 - Close by offering **prayer** for each person.

- Ask, "how can we pray for you / each other now?"
- Ask each person to pray or you, as leader, pray for each person's need

The blessing and opportunity in Small Groups is the possibility for...

- Each person to contribute and/or ask questions,
- People to pray for each other and to ask for prayer,
- People to learn to use and grow in their gifts,
- Community, friendship and intimacy in relationships.

God Bless you in this very important ministry.

4 - Small Group Bible Study Questions and Guidelines for this message

OUTLINE OF THE SHORT VIDEO MESSAGE

1. God's Names and Faith: The talk emphasises the significance of God's compound names, particularly "Yahweh Sabaoth" (the Lord of hosts), illustrating immense spiritual power and resources. Believers need faith to perceive God's might beyond visible challenges.
2. Biblical Examples of Faith: Examples from the Bible are used to demonstrate faith in God's power, such as David confronting Goliath with faith in God's armies, Elisha seeing divine protection, and Paul and Silas praising God in prison leading to their miraculous release.
3. Faith as Spiritual Perception: Faith is likened to an antenna that enables believers to perceive God's spiritual reality, which is always present but unseen by physical senses. This perception empowers believers to face and overcome challenges.
4. God as Our Banner: The story of Moses raising his hands with the rod of God (Exodus 17) symbolises reliance on God's authority and strength and the power of prayer - both individual and corporate.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS ON THIS SHORT VIDEO

1. What are the hindrances that stop us seeing beyond our immediate problems to recognize God's presence and power?
2. How can we practically develop this faith "muscle" in our lives?
3. What stops us from "raising the banner" of God's name in prayer, both individually and together? What could we do from today onwards to make a change?
4. Spend some time thanking God and praying specifically for each person's needs.

5 - Expanded Notes of the full Sermon

INTRO - God Has given us His name

He revealed His name to Moses:

Exo 3:13-15 NKJV - "13 Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"

14 And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." ["*HYH, HYH*"] And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM ["*HYH*"] has sent me to you.' " 15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD ["*YAHWEH*" "*YHWH*"] God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations."

The benefits of knowing His name

Pro 18:10 NKJV - "10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe (*set on high*)."

Jhn 14:14 NKJV - "14 "If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."

Revelation 3:12 NKJV — "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name. (cf Rev 2:17 "*a white stone, and ...a new name which no one else knows* ")

His Name is... ARMIES

3 main names and 3 main points:

1. JEHOVAH (**YAHWEH**) **SABAOTH** (THE LORD OF HOSTS) over **285** References of the name Jehovah Sabaoth in the Old Testament.

1Sa 17:45 NKJV - "45 Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the **LORD of hosts**, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied."

2Ki 6:15-18 NKJV — "15 And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" 16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. 18 So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, and said, "Strike this people, I pray, with blindness." And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha."

Acts 16:16 - Paul and Silas escape from a Philippian jail

Isa 6:1-5 NKJV - "1 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. 2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!" 4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. 5 So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The **LORD of hosts**.""

POINT 1:- We run into the name of the LORD of Armies by FAITH, not by sight

The spiritual force, power and armies of God are immense and overwhelming and can be relied upon. He is powerful. This army is eternal and more real than any physical force or power. BUT. It is seen by FAITH not sight.

2. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) NISSI (THE LORD MY BANNER)

Exo 17:8-15 NKJV — "8 Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim. 9 And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand." 10 So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. 11 And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. 12 But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. 13 So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. 14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven." 15 And Moses built an altar and called its name, **The-LORD-Is-My-Banner;**"

1Ti 2:8 NKJV - "8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;"

POINT 2:- Prayer

Prayer is powerful. Corporate (group/combined) prayer is very powerful.

We wrestle against spiritual forces NOT flesh and blood.

3. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) SHALOM (THE LORD IS PEACE)

Jdg 6:12-16, 22-24 NKJV - "12 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, "The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valour!" 13 Gideon said to Him, "O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites." 14 Then the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?" 15 So he said to Him, "O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." 16 And the LORD said to him, "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man." ... 22 Now Gideon perceived that He was the Angel of the LORD. So Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For I have seen the Angel of the LORD face to face." 23 **Then the LORD said to him, "Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die." 24 So Gideon built an altar there to the LORD, and called it The-LORD-Is-Peace.** To this day it is still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites."

32,000 soldiers were reduced to 10,000 and further down to 300 men vs the overwhelming (physical) Midianite army

Jdg 7:12 NKJV — "12 Now the Midianites and Amalekites, all the people of the East, were lying in the valley as numerous as locusts; and their camels were without number, as the sand by the seashore in multitude."

Jdg 7:16 NKJV — "16 Then he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet into every man's hand, with empty pitchers, and torches inside the pitchers."

Jdg 7:20-21 NKJV — "20 Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers—they held the torches in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands for blowing—and they cried, "The sword of the LORD and of Gideon!" 21 And every man stood in his place all around the camp; and the whole army ran and cried out and fled." ...and attacked each other...

POINT 3:- God gives us Peace in this great fight against evil.

Even though we fight, it is from a place of peace.

- Peace with God - Rom 5:1 NKJV - "1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,"
- Peace of God - Phl 4:6-7 NKJV - "6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, Because he trusts in You.

- Peace with all men - the Gospel of peace -

Rom 10:15 NKJV - "15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the **gospel of peace**, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"

Eph 6:15 NKJV - "15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the **gospel of peace**;"

Luk 10:5-6 NKJV - "5 "But whatever house you enter, first say, '**Peace** to this house.' 6 "And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you."

Col 4:5-6 NKJV - "5 Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. 6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one."

The gospel of peace (toward men) also involves an attitude of "violence" against the devil:

Jas 4:7 NKJV - "7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

Jhn 12:31 NKJV - "31 "Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."

1Jo 3:8 NKJV - "8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil."

Rom 16:20 NKJV - "20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."

Luk 10:19 NKJV — "19 "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

Conclusion:

Pro 18:10 NKJV - "10 The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run to it and are safe (*set on high*)."

THE NAMES OF GOD

1. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **JIREH** (THE LORD WILL **PROVIDE**) Gen 22:14.

2. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **RAPHA** (THE LORD WHO **HEALS**) Exd 15:26.

3. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **NISSI** (THE LORD MY **BANNER**) Exd 17:15. Moses, recognizing that the Lord was Israel's banner under which they defeated the Amalekites, builds an altar named Jehovah-Nissi (the Lord our Banner).

4. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **MEKODDISHKEM** (THE LORD WHO **SANCTIFIES YOU**) Exd 31:13. Lev 20:8

5. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **SHALOM** (THE LORD IS **PEACE**) Jdg 6:24. the name of an altar built by Gideon in Ophrah.

6. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **SABAOTH** (THE LORD **OF HOSTS**) over 285 References of the name Jehovah Sabaoth in the Old Testament.

7. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **RAAH** (THE LORD MY **SHEPHERD**) Psalm 23.

8. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **TSIDKENU** (THE LORD OUR **RIGHTEOUSNESS**) Jer 23:6; Jer 33:16

9. JEHOVAH (YAHWEH) **SHAMMAH** (THE LORD IS **THERE**) Ezekiel 48:35.