

Names of God part 12

Name: Jehovah-Shalom (Shaw-lome')

Passage: Judges 6:1-24

During the time of the book of Judges, the Israelites were searching for peace. They were constantly under bondage to different nations. At the time of Judges 6, they were under a severe bondage to the Midianites. The Midianites had taken all of their food, tools, and livestock. This is why you find Gideon hiding while he was reaping. If the Midianites had seen what Gideon was doing, they would have taken his harvest for themselves.

God called Gideon to restore peace to Israel. He was to be their deliverer from the Midianite oppression! Gideon built an altar to sacrifice to God and called the name of the place Jehovah-Shalom. He called it that place where Jehovah brought peace. The most basic definition of Shalom is a harmony, completeness, or wholeness. It is translated peace 170 times in the Bible (KJV). Also, peace expresses our deepest desire and need and brings the greatest satisfaction in life. Shalom brings with it the idea of reconciliation based on the completion of a transaction or the payment of a debt! Jehovah-Shalom is the one who paid our sin debt on the cross of Christ and purchased for us perfect peace for all who believe. (Philippians 4:7)

Jehovah-Shalom desires to give peace to everyone. (Jeremiah 29:11; Psalm 29:11; Isaiah 48:18) Where God is present, He brings perfect peace. (Isaiah 26:3) Today, Jesus is the supplier of peace with God. (John 14:27; 16:33; Matthew 11:28-29) As we allow the Holy Spirit to conform our minds to the mind of Christ, we receive more and more of the peace of God. (Romans 8:6; Philippians 4:6-9) The satisfaction that all men are looking for can only be found in Jehovah-Shalom!

Jehovah-Shalom, we thank you for the peace that only you can bring. Help us to conform more and more to Your mind so that we can know more of the peace of God! Give us the power and words to bring your message of peace to a world that is desperately searching for peace!