

## NAMES OF THE FATHER

Part XIV  
*Isaiah 9:6*

Introduction: When we examine the exponential qualities of the Father, we can't help but stand in awe at what we find. Each impervious name of God inviolably anchors our faith in Him. Our respect of Him continues to grow by leaps and bounds. He is constantly expanding in His revelation of Himself to us, and that quality shall continue throughout eternity. The more we know of Him, the more we will want to know of Him, forever.

### I. The names of the Father

#### A. El Gibbor / Mighty God (like a Rock)

1. The name Rock is one of several *strength names* for God recorded in the Old Testament. He is also called Mighty God, Strong One, Fortress, and the Lord my Strength, among other titles.
2. These names were not used when the people of God needed might in battle; they were more likely to call on *Yahweh Sabaoth*, the Lord of Hosts, a name referring to God as Lord of the fighting angels.
  - a. Rather, they would use the strength names of God during the spiritual storms of life; that is, when they were weak or discouraged and in need of emotional strength.
  - b. *El Gibbor*, "the Mighty God," is best applied in the Messianic prophecy in the book of Isaiah. Israel was discouraged at the prospect of losing a military conflict. But the nation really needed spiritual revival. God promised that a Messiah would come and save them, coming as a Child through a virgin birth. Isaiah 7:14. Read also 9:6.
  - c. *El Gibbor* revealed to Moses. Deuteronomy 10:17.
  - d. David speaks of God as "the Lord Strong and Mighty." Psalm 24:8. *El Gibbor* speaks of God's might and power.

#### B. As we study the strong names of God, it is conspicuously obvious that God's capacious ability far exceeds that of man.

1. God cannot protect what we won't place into His hands. We naturally protect what belongs to us – our turf, our kids, our home, our job, etc. Why do we go to such great lengths to protect what is ours? First, we are wrapped up in our work, our relatives, and our material possessions. They are a part of us. Second, we are selfish by nature and we lust after things, people, and position.
2. God loves us and protects us to such a degree that He gave His Son for us. The enemy is always ready to attack us. 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:8. We are vulnerable without the Lord's protection. The shepherd can protect the sheep that sleeps closest to him, not the one who is straying away.
3. God is unable to work His way in our life when we are working out our own way. The secret is for the believer to surrender to God, not to become passive but rather to cease self-centered activity. Then, fight the battle of faith according to Biblical principles. Example – during an economic crisis, some people try to borrow their way out of debt or try a "get rich quick" scheme. God's Word concerning tithes and offerings is left out of the equation. Malachi 3:8-10; Luke 6:38.
4. Protection begins with a relationship, not a rabbit's foot. God or the Bible are not our good luck charm. We don't let the Bible fall open in hopes that it will land on a lucky passage. I don't believe we should need further proof than the Word to stand on.

Conclusion: Those living in constant obedience have better reasons to trust in the protection of *El Gibbor*, the Mighty God. While God is kind to receive the new believer as he is, we must come into line with the Word of God as we mature. We cannot avoid the consequences of rebellion against God's laws. Read Paul's admonition to Timothy. 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 2:1-13.