

THE NAMES OF THE FATHER
Part XVI
Psalm 91:9-12

Introduction: Last week we talked about *Yahweh Melek*, God the King Everlasting. As we consider the different names and titles given to the Father in the Old Testament, we become more acquainted with who God is, what He does, and how they relate to us.

I. The names of the Father

A. *Yahweh Sabaoth* / the Lord of Hosts

1. This is another way of saying, "the God of the angels." The term "host" means an army or organized group. The term "angels" means messengers. This implies that God carries out His will by means of angels or messengers. *Yahweh Sabaoth* is the God of angelic hosts who carry out His will.
 - a. One task of angels is to transport people (at death) into the presence of God in heaven. 2nd Corinthians 5:8. God uses angels to usher the dead into His presence. Luke 16:22. We should not fear death because *Yahweh Sabaoth* is the God of the angels who accompany the dead to His bosom.
 - b. Another task of angels is to serve as guardians to protect us from physical harm. Psalm 91:11-12. (The indwelling of the Holy Spirit protects us from spiritual harm.) We can trust *Yahweh Sabaoth* because He sends guardian angels to protect us from physical harm.

B. The phrase *Yahweh Sabaoth* occurs 281 times in the Old Testament and denotes that the God of Israel brought heavenly powers to the aid of His needy people.

1. The title first appears in the book of 1st Samuel 17:45. The "Lord of Hosts" could be interpreted as "the God of angels who fight for us."
2. The compound name, the *Lord* (the Self-Existing and Self-Revealing One) and *Sabaoth*, or hosts (multitudes in the service of God) tells us that God cannot be threatened by mere man and will help us to prevail against our enemies. Psalm 24:10.
3. The name *Yahweh Sabaoth* is prominently used 80 times in the book of Jeremiah, 14 times in Haggai, 50 times in Zechariah, and 25 times in Malachi. These names are used in the latter part of the Old Testament because the faith of Israel began to waver after they had conquered the Promised Land.
4. The name *Lord Sabaoth* first appeared to the nation of Israel when they failed to trust God, whose armies were not fleshly. In the battle with the Philistines, Israel lost 4,000 men and was defeated. 1st Samuel 4:2-3. The problem was that Israel put more trust in a piece of furniture than in the Lord of Hosts, *Yahweh Sabaoth*. In this losing battle, even the ark was taken by the Philistines.
5. Young David became the champion of Israel because he recognized the Lord of Hosts. David did not fight Goliath with man's strength but rather in the name of the Lord of Hosts, *Yahweh Sabaoth*. 1st Samuel 17:45.

Conclusion: Israel suffered because she would not remain faithful to the Lord. Whenever she repented, God was always there for her. *Yahweh Sabaoth*, the God of the fighting angels, the Lord of Hosts, remains available to those who put their complete trust in Him. Remember what Isaiah saw in Isaiah 6:3, *Yahweh Sabaoth*. Later, Isaiah was told not to fear the Assyrians because the Lord of hosts, *Yahweh Sabaoth*, would take care of the situation. Isaiah 10:24-26.