

The Lord Will Provide

Jehovah (or *Yahweh*) is God's personal and sacred name, meaning "I AM" or "the self-existent, eternal One." One of the Old Testament names for God is **Jehovah Jireh**, meaning "The Lord will provide." Did you know that the Bible makes an amazing claim about God's care and provision for His children? When we put our faith in Christ, we become united to Him as His children, and He cannot fail to protect, provide for, and care for us. You might say, "That's good, because I have a long list of needs." Well, our Heavenly Father's duty and delight compel Him to care for us, His children. This phrase first appears in the story of Abraham and Isaac. God commanded Abraham to sacrifice his son, Isaac, to test his faith. Isaac asked where they would find the sacrifice. **Genesis 22:7-8:** *Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son?" Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are here," Isaac said, "but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son."* We know that God provided Abraham with a ram in the thicket to sacrifice instead of his son, Isaac. Abraham named this place **The-Lord-Will-Provide**; as it is said to this day, "In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided." Jehovah-Jireh is still at work today caring for us. Jesus said, **Matthew 7:11:** *"If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!"* As God's children, we can pray big and bold. Paul tells us in **2 Corinthians 9:8:** *"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work."* Paul begins with "God is able." If we are obedient to God's instructions, He will care for us and our families. The next phrase says that *God is all-grace-abounding*. Grace comes from the Greek word "*charis*," which means gift. God graces us with His presence and His provision. Why would He do that for us and not for anyone? Because God has all grace for all those who put their trust in Him. Notice the word "*abound*," meaning abundance. This word appears twice in the verse we just read. "God is able to make all grace abound towards you, so that you may have an abundance for every good work." We have a God who's the God of abundance. Jesus tells us in **John 10:10:** *"...I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."* God wants us to receive His abundance. How about "*all sufficiency in all things at all times*"? This means God wants us to live in the overflow of His grace so we're not paupers or beggars. We're people who honor the Lord with our lives, and He continues to shower us with His abundance. If we take a moment to reflect on our lives—our health, our family and friends, and a place to live—we might not have much, but we are abundant creatures in God's hands. Paul tells us in **Philippians 4:19:** *"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."* Paul didn't say, "All our greed." He said, "Supply all our needs." God wants to give us an abundance, so we have enough for every good work He puts in front of us, and we can channel it into His kingdom. Remember, God's purpose is to bless us so we can do every good work and so He can use us. He blesses us in

the same measure so we can take what He gives us and make it available for His good work. When we do that and remain faithful, He keeps blessing us and giving us more. To conclude, when we stop grasping for things that don't last and open our hands so that God can take what we have when He needs it, we will enjoy God's provisions. While we can't explain it, we see how God has intervened in ways that are just amazing to us. That's His purpose. He is our provider.