

## Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Road Map

Pastor Roger W. Huffman

Exodus 34:5-9

August 26, 2018

### The name of the LORD/Yahweh is powerful in surprising ways.

What's all this talk in the Bible about "*the name of the Lord?*" NIV - 98 times

- **The name of the LORD** is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. Proverbs 18:10
- You shall not misuse **the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.** Ex. 20:7 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment
- Our Father in heaven, hallowed be **your name**... Matt. 6:9 - The Lord's Prayer
- I revealed **your name** to the men you gave me... John 17:6 EHV - Jesus' Prayer

Luther called this: *the sermon on the name of the LORD (Yahweh).*

### The name of the LORD/Yahweh is powerful in surprising ways.

- ❖ In his gentle whisper and care
  - Exodus 33 - Moses asked: "*Now show me your glory.*"
  - The LORD: "*I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, ... But... you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.*" Protected in a cleft & by God's hand - what care!
  - "*The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, <sup>7</sup> maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.*"
    - ♦ Note the emphasis! *Faithful patient loving kindness & compassion!*
      - He doesn't ignore sin! He's not blind! He deals with it with care!
      - **Goal:** deal with in a way to rescue people from sin's hold and power
      - Even the closing line is a loving warning - law serving the gospel.
  - Where's the thunder, lightening, earthquake, wind, fire?
    - ♦ As Elijah discovered, Yahweh's power works in his gentle whisper care
    - ♦ This is how he saves sinners. It's the only way. Law can't save! It kills!
- ❖ In the **comfort** and **confidence** it gives us.
  - This is right after the Golden Calf rebellion!
  - Yahweh's character - reputation/name alone explains their survival.
    - ♦ *Compassion* - heart for us blind, struggling, sin-impulsed sinners
    - ♦ *Undeserved favor* - not quick to anger & justice, but long suffering
      - What **comfort** for sinners struggling and ashamed! What a Father!

- *abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands*
  - ♦ **Love - chesed - faithful covenant loving-kindness**
    - Not love on a whim or mood! Steadfast. Promised loving-kindness
    - Faithful, steady, true, reliable. No lie, deception or passing fancy.
  - ♦ **Gives confidence:** One you can rely on, trust. Faith in the Faithful God
- Just what people who deal with being stiff-necked need!
  - ♦ *Stiff-necked:* image: oxen, donkey, camel - self-willed, hard to turn
  - ♦ Know your stiff-necked stubborn streak that resists God's molding & reformation
    - *wickedness, rebellion and sin* - call it what it is! It's bad - bad for you!
  - ♦ Praise God he doesn't give up on us! He's working on you and me.
  - ♦ *Forgive - lifts up to remove* - not just the guilt! The bad stuff too!
- ❖ The key to unlock the Scriptures
  - Don't forget to apply his faithful patient name at the end of this text!
  - Yahweh who lifts up *wickedness, rebellion and sin* to get rid of it, will lift up and get rid of those who cling to sin as a way of life & heritage.
    - ♦ He does it in justice after profound mercy and grace are despised.
    - ♦ He does it to protect others, especially his church & saving mission!
  - What name for God is used in the Flood? **Yahweh - the LORD**
    - ♦ This colors the **whole account!** It's not chiefly anger. It's intervention.
    - ♦ Sin was threatening the church (down to 8) & the promised Savior.
    - ♦ His promise: *the gates of Hades will not overcome it (the Church)*
  - Who visits Adam & Eve after the Fall? **Yahweh - the LORD**
    - ♦ **Not** a guilt trip visit of judgment! **A rescue mission!**
  - These verses unlock every use of **Yahweh - the LORD** (nearly 10,000!)
    - ♦ Not equal to the Lord in the NT, but we can often sense the fragrance.

### The name of the LORD/Yahweh is powerful in surprising ways.

All to rescue us from sin, for the good stuff - righteousness - walking with Yahweh all the way into his presence in glory! Name it. Claim it. Confess it!