YAHWEH-SABAOTH, Lord OF HOSTS, Lord ALMIGHTY

Jeremiah 20:11-12; 29:4,11-14; 50:33-34 Jeremiah 29:4, 11-14, English Standard Version

Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ...¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹²Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Jeremiah 50:33-34 English Standard Version

"Thus says the LORD of hosts: The people of Israel are oppressed, and the people of Judah with them. All who took them captive have held them fast; they refuse to let them go. ³⁴Their Redeemer is strong; the LORD of hosts is his name. He will surely plead their cause, that he may give rest to the earth, but unrest to the inhabitants of Babylon.

Yahweh Sabaoth

- Found 260 times in Old Testament
- Jeremiah (72), Isaiah (50+); Haggai (14)
 Zechariah (46); Malachi (24)
- Translated, "The LORD of Hosts" and "The LORD Almighty" (NIV)
- "Saba" is the root word for warriors, so the name depicts God as head of a great spiritual army. He has come and He has brought His army with Him.
- The God of Hosts (Elohim Sabaoth) is found 10 times

Yahweh Sabaoth

- It was most often used when a prophet stood before a backslidden people to call them to faithfulness
- It reminded the listeners of the power and authority of Almighty God, and the means by which He displays His power.
- It has special relevance to any believer who feels weak, forgotten, ignored, powerless, and insignificant.

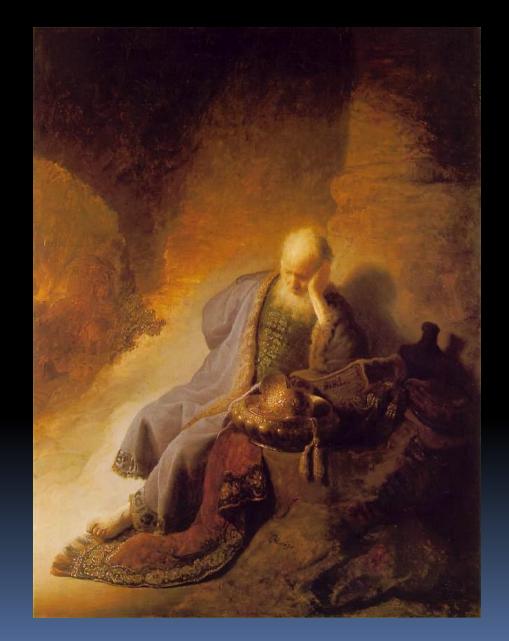
Meaning of the Name: Yahweh-Sabaoth depicts God as Lord over a vast heavenly army and envisions the protection of God working for His people, His progress in our lives, and His power at work within us.

What does this name, The LORD of Hosts, mean to us?

The Protection of God working for us
The Purpose of God working in us
The Power of God working through us

1. The Power of God in our
world: He works in unseen
ways.

Jeremiah 20:11-12: But the LORD is with me like a mighty warrior..."O LORD of Hosts, you who examine the righteous and prove the heart and mind...to you I have committed my cause."



Jeremiah

- Called as a young man. Had a weak, sentimental temperament
- Persecuted for his prophecies – imprisoned, impoverished, rejected
- He stood in the power of God

God Strengthens His people

- Isaiah 41:10: "So do not fear for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."
- 1 Corinthians 1:8: "He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God who called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful."
- Two main ways: inner strength and providential events

2. The Purpose of God in our lives: He knows His plans for us

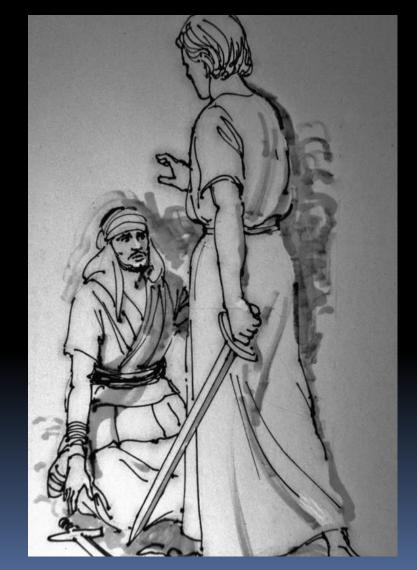
Jeremiah 29:11-13

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart.

God has not forgotten His purpose in our salvation

- Romans 8:29: "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son."
- Hebrews 4:16: "Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Joshua, whose side are you on?



Joshua 5:13-15, "Are you for us or for our enemies?" Asked Joshua. "Neither, but as commander of the LORD's army I have now come."

Paul's crisis of faith

- 2 Corinthians 1:8-10
- For we do not want you to be unaware, brothers, the affliction we experienced in Asia. For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. ⁹ Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. ¹⁰ He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

3. The Power of God working through us: Our Redeemer is strong

Jeremiah 50:33-34 "Thus says the LORD of hosts: The people of Israel are oppressed, and the people of Judah with them. All who took them captive have held them fast; they refuse to let them go. ³⁴Their Redeemer is strong; the LORD of hosts is his name."

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing; Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing: Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He; Lord Sabaoth, His Name, from age to age the same, And He must win the battle.

Mit unsrer Macht ist nichts getan, wir sind gar bald verloren; es streit' für uns der rechte Mann, den Gott hat selbst erkoren. Fragst du, wer der ist? Er heißt Jesus Christ, der Herr Zebaot, und ist kein andrer Gott, das Feld muss er behalten.

Jesus said,

- Christ Himself said, "All authority in heaven and on earth is given unto me." Which means that all the heavenly hosts, the angels, are under His authority. (Matt 28:18)
- Jesus, facing the cross, said to His disciples, "Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?" (Matt 26:53)
- Jesus said to Pilate, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above" (John 19:11a).

In temptation...

- 1 Corinthians 10:13: No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.
- ...Look for the way of escape that God has provided. That is an expression of His strength.

My greater need this morning:

- I need the LORD of Hosts to providentially change the circumstances around me.
- I need the LORD of Hosts to work within me to change my heart and teach me to depend on Him.
- Which is your greater need this morning?