

God is "The All Seeing One"

December 1, 2013

El Roi

A. Background: El Roi is used once to describe God as the seeing One.

The story is found in Genesis chapter 16

V. 1-9 This title (El-Roi) was given to the Lord by Hagar, a desperate Egyptian slave woman, who was fleeing the harsh treatment of Sarah, her mistress; at the time she was pregnant with a son by Abraham

Although God had promised Abraham a son, none had been born to Sarah. After ten years of seemingly futile waiting in Canaan, Sarah was convinced that it was too late for her to bear her husband a child. Thus, Sarah followed established custom and, like other childless wives, supplied her husband with a surrogate. According to the law of those times, the child the surrogate bore would be Sarah's, and she would thus have fulfilled her duty to give Abraham a son.

But Sarah had not consulted God, and when Hagar became pregnant, everything began to go wrong. The two women became increasingly hostile and finally Hagar, although pregnant, could stand it no longer. She fled into the wilderness to hide. But there the Angel of the Lord spoke to Hagar. The angel told her what to name the unborn child within her womb and promised her a bright future: "I will greatly multiply your descendants so that they will be too many to count." It was there that Hagar called the Lord "the-God-Who-Sees" (v. 13).

Gen 16:13 Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God who sees (El-Roi)"; for she said, "Have I even remained alive here after seeing Him?"

God had seen Hagar's plight and stooped to speak with her. And as God looked ahead, He saw the future that Hagar had been almost ready to throw away. trusted God's vision of the future, and she returned to Sarah's tent.

B. Definition:

Means = "The strong one who sees" it is used to describe God as the seeing One.

C. This concept of God as the "all seeing One" from whose eye nothing is hidden is also seen:

Gen 31:42 "If the God of my father, the God of Abraham, and the fear of Isaac, had not been for me, surely now you would have sent me away empty-handed. God has seen my affliction and the toil of my hands, so He rendered judgment last night."

Ps 139:1-3 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways.

Ps 33:18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope for His lovingkindness

1. He knows what is in your heart and mind.

Jer 20:12 Yet, O LORD of hosts, You who test the righteous, Who see the mind and the heart; (1 Ki 8:39; Job 34:21; Ps 44:21; Ac 1:24; 15:8; 1 Co 4:5; Jn 2:24-25)

2. He searches and tests the heart

Ps 7:9 O let the evil of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous; For the righteous God tries the hearts and minds.

(Ps 17:3; 1 Ch 28:9; 29:17; Jer 11:20; 17:10; Rev 2:23)

3. He is watching our plans and paths

Pr 5:21 For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the LORD, And He watches all his paths.

Heb 4:13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

(Pr 15:3; Isa 29:15; Jer 23:24; Mt 6:3-4, 6, 18)

4. He gives strong support to the heart (person) who belongs to Him.

2 Ch 16:9 "For the eyes of the LORD move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.

D. Application: What an encouragement this title of God is to us!

God sees our situation.

Ps 33:13-19 The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men; From His dwelling place He looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, He who fashions the hearts of them all, He who understands all their works. The king is not saved by a mighty army; a warrior is not delivered by great strength. A horse is a false hope for victory; nor does it deliver anyone by its great strength. Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope for His lovingkindness, To deliver their soul from death and to keep them alive in famine.

And God also sees the future that He has in store for us.

Jer 29:11 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.

Jer 31:17 "There is hope for your future ," declares the LORD,

Pr 23:17-18 Do not let your heart envy sinners, but live in the fear of the LORD always. Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off.

Ps 84:11-12 For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD gives grace and glory; no good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly. O LORD of hosts, how blessed is the man who trusts in You!

In trying situations we can resist all fear.

Ps 27:1-3 The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The LORD is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread? 2 When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. 3 Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In spite of this

Ps 46:1-3 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea; 3 Though its waters roar and foam, Though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. Selah.

For He has protection and provision for us

Jn 10:28-29 and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

Ro 8:31-32 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

Ro 8:37-39 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.