

Bible Mini-course

Lesson 2 — The Savior's Name

Most Bible believers identify with a Messiah who was never known or called by the name they use. The question becomes, does His Name really matter and will it hinder salvation to call on a substitute name for the One who died for our sins? (The answers to the questions below are on the back.)

- The Savior said that He would come in His Father's Name.
 - True
 - False
- The Savior's Name is Yahshua, the same as Joshua (correctly, Yahshua), the Old Testament patriarch and son of Nun. How do we know this?
 - We find clear evidence in prophecy.
 - It is revealed by obvious translator errors.
 - Because His Name means "Yah is salvation."
 - Through the Greek transliteration.
 - All of these
- "Jesus" is the English form of the Hebrew name of the Savior, and was a common name in the Holy Land in the Savior's day.
 - True
 - False
- The letter J, as in "Jesus," is
 - the same as the letter Y in Yahshua.
 - found in ancient biblical manuscripts, as in the "J" version of the Bible.
 - like Columbus, only about 500 years old.
 - None of these
- Both the Hebrew and Greek languages have a letter J in their alphabets.
 - True
 - False
- In the New Testament, "sh" sounds in Hebrew names (like Yahshua) became "s" sounds (as in Jesus) because
 - translators preferred the stronger "s" sound.
 - the single letter s is shorter to write & print.
 - transliteration is not important for names, therefore "s" is as good as "sh."
 - New Testament Greek has no "sh" sound.
- The Latinized-Greek name Jesus
 - reflects our Savior's Greek ancestry.
 - is the name his mother, the Hebrew Miriam (Mary), gave Him.
 - is what His Hebrew disciples called Him every day.
 - None of these
- "Yahshua" is
 - a name meaning "Yah is Salvation."
 - a name meaning "The Good Shepherd."
 - German for "yes, sure."
 - nonexistent in any historical records.
 - None of these
- What Pilate wrote on the stake (incorrectly "cross") shows that the Savior's Name changes with the language.
 - True
 - False
- Some Messianic Jews call Him "Yeshua" because
 - they don't believe in the Messiah.
 - to hide the sacred Name, Jews shortened it to "Y'shua," pronounced "Yehshua."
 - in Hebrew, the "a" is pronounced as an "e."
 - Yeshua is His correct name.
- The Savior's name is really Emmanuel, according to Matthew 1:23.
 - True
 - False
- The name one is baptized into
 - depends on which language you speak.
 - is not important, but the method is.
 - directly bears on salvation.
 - is "Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."
 - None of these



Score Yourself

1. a. John 5:43 reads, "I am come in my Father's name, and you receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him you will receive." Just as males perpetuate the family name, we would expect the Son to carry the Name of the Father, as well as have the Father's authority.
2. e. In Zechariah 6:11-12 we find that "Joshua" is referred to as the BRANCH. This is a direct, prophetic reference to "Yahshua," as shown in Ps. 80:15; Isaiah 11:1; 53:2; Jer. 23:5; Ezek. 34:29; and Zech. 3:8. In Hebrew, both Joshua and Yahshua are "Yahshua." / In Acts 7:45 and Hebrews 4:8, the King James translators erred by inserting "Jesus" into passages clearly referring to "Joshua," the Old Testament son of Nun. This is indisputable evidence that the name Joshua (Yahshua) had been changed by translators of the New Testament to Jesus. / Yahshua's Name can be broken down to "Yah" and "Hoshua." "Yah" is found in the Father's Name Yah-weh, while Hoshua means salvation. Thus, "Yah is Salvation." The **Emphatic Diaglott** says the name "is composed of Yah, or Jah, *I shall be* and Shua, *Powerful*;—'I shall be the Powerful.' Hence he is 'mighty to save, and strong to deliver,' and will 'save His people from their sins.'" / By the time Yahshua was born, the Name had been shortened to "Yahshua." The Greek transliteration of the Messiah's Hebrew Name is IASOU, pronounced ee-ah-s-o-u. Greek has no "sh" sound, only a sibilate "s."
3. b. The name Jesus is mostly NOT English. It is Latinized Greek, with some 15th century English thrown in by way of its letter J. Therefore, this name could not have existed in Israel 2,000 years ago. "Jesus" is **Strong's Concordance** No. 2424, from the Hebrew 3091—Y^ehowshua (see).
4. c. The letter J is the newest letter in the English alphabet. It developed in the 15th century from the letter I, which it follows in our alphabet. It had an "i" vowel sound until the Franch gave it the "juh" consonant sound. To distinguish this special sound, the I was given a tail. The lower case j still has a dot over it, revealing its origins in the letter "i."
5. b. Both the Hebrew and Greek historically lack a letter J or the "juh" sound. His Name was never pronounced "Jesus."
6. d. Greek has only the hissing or sibilate "s" sound, as represented by the sigma, and therefore the letter sigma is the closest the Greek can come to transliterating—bringing across—the "sh" sound in Yahshua.
7. d. "Jesus is merely the Latin form of Joshua, a common Hebrew name. In Greek Joshua became *Iesous* and in Latin *Jesus*. It was not until the sixteenth century that the Latin nominative form *Iesus* or *Jesus* became the established English form of the name." (**A Book About the Bible**, by George Stimpson) **The Anchor Bible Dictionary** notes: "Jesus...is a Greek form of Joshua (Heb. Yehosua...'Jesus Christ' is a composite name made up of the personal name 'Jesus' (from the Gk. *Iesous*, which transliterates Heb/Aram *yesu(a)*, a late form of Hebrew *yehosua*, the meaning of which is 'YHWH is salvation' or 'YHWH saves/'has saved')..." (III, p. 773). The Greek "Jesus" has nothing to do with the Greek word to save, "soter." Only in the Hebrew does His Name signify salvation: Yah-shua.
8. a.. Under "Jeshua," the **Mercer Dictionary of the Bible** states, "An Aramaic form of the name Joshua, meaning 'Yahweh is salvation'" (p. 444).
9. b. When Pilate wrote Yahshua's Name in three languages in John 19, he did not write a different Hebrew Name, different Greek Name, and different Latin Name. Yahshua's Name did not vary with language, any more than yours or mine does. Rather, Pilate wrote His one and only name with Hebrew, Greek, and Latin letters so that the sound of His Name was reproduced accurately in each of those languages. Today, "Gates," "Blair," and "Hussein" are recognizable names in every language because their very sounds are carried over into each foreign tongue through transliteration. We don't have a different English pronunciation for foreign names. Through centuries, however, changes in alphabets or inflection sometimes create changes in pronunciation. These deviations do not necessarily convey the *original* sound of a name, however.
10. b. The **Encyclopaedia Judaica** says: "In the early Middle Ages, when the consonantal text of the bible was supplied with vowel points to facilitate its correct traditional reading, the vowel points for Adonai with one variation—a *sheva* ['eh' sound] with the first *yod* [Y] of YHWH instead of the *hataf-patah* ['ah' sound] under the *aleph* of Adonai—were used for YHWH, thus producing the form YeHoWah" (vol 7, p. 680). It was this erroneous "Yeh" form in the Tetragrammaton that was retained in the faulty form "Yeshua." In Hebrew, Yeshua means "He will save," while Yahshua means "Yah is salvation."
11. b. This passage is from Isaiah 7:14. In context, we see that it speaks of the Messiah as future King on earth. The promised Immanuel, a name meaning "El with us" (on earth), will possess the land (8:8), thwart all opponents (8:10), and as Prince of Peace His government will never end (9:6) as He reigns forever (9:7). Because He has not yet fulfilled this prophecy, He is Yahshua, "Salvation of Yah."
12. c. Acts 4:12 tells us that there is no other name under heaven "given among men whereby we must be saved." That name is Yahshua, as verse 10 reveals. In every example in the book of Acts immersion was done in the Name of Yahshua (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5; 22:16). Nowhere in the New Testament is the Trinity formula ever used in baptism. Some versions, like the **Jerusalem Bible**, question whether Matthew 28:19 is inspired or added. Regardless, the command we find there is to be baptized into a singular "name," not a trinity of "names." The Holy Spirit is sent only in Yahshua's Name, John 14:26.