

Jesus' 8th Day - The Naming

Two very significance events happened to Jesus after his birth on his 8th day! Luke writes: *And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.* Luke 2:21

*Eight days after his birth, the child was circumcised and named **Yeshua**. This was the name the angel had given him before his mother became pregnant.* (NOG)

In Hebrew Jesus' name would have been Yehoshua but Jews didn't typically use Hebrew in Jesus's time. Primarily they used both Aramaic and Greek. Jesus probably spoke Aramaic as his first language, and his name would have been **Yeshua**. "Jesus" is derived from the Latinization of the Greek name Iesous, which in turn comes from the Aramaic Yeshua and Hebrew Yehoshua. Primarily in New Testament times people were called by one name, although officially they would be known by the name of the father. We see in the gospel accounts the addition of patronym ("Jesus son of Joseph"), a hometown ("Jesus from Nazareth"), a profession ("Jesus the carpenter"), or a combination ("Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth", "Jesus, the carpenter's son"). In the New Testament letters and Acts Jesus is referred to as the Christ or Messiah. However, Christ is not a name but a title. At his circumcision the name given was probably Yeshua ben **Yosip** (John 6:42). This rightly rendered in English from Latin is Jesus, son of Joseph.

Names in the Hebrew Biblical culture carried great meaning and served several purposes. Listen to this condensation of the article on "Name, Naming" from [Eerdmans Bible Dictionary](#):

"In the Bible, as throughout the Semitic world, a name carries significance beyond that of its meaning or its use as a title. Because of the vitality ascribed to words, a name signifies first and foremost existence. The name represents the person and the personality...

The name conveys the authority of the person even when absent. To speak or act in another's name is to participate in that person's authority. The principle is that

of prophecy and revelation. God's name reveals his character and salvation in which people may take refuge (Ps. 20:1 [MT 2]). "

"Names were chosen for various reasons, such as to express religious convictions or hopes or some to describe a physical characteristic or some circumstance of birth. Many represent a creedal statement (e.g., Uzziah, "Yahweh is my trust"), express gratitude or a similar emotion (e.g., Saul, "asked [of God]"; Joshua/Jesus, "Yahweh will save"), or function as prophecy (cf. Hos. 1:4–11). The Lord gave the names for Hosea's three children, names that symbolized God's divine judgments against the nation of Israel. Two of the names began with the prefix, "Lo..."

Hosea's second child, a daughter, was named Lo-ruhamah (Hos. 1:6-7).

"Ruhamah" refers to God's tender mercy. It literally means "womb," symbolizing the astonishing love that Yahweh bears for the chosen people. However, the negative prefix "Lo-" reversed the meaning to "No Mercy" or "No Pity" - messaging the withdrawal of God's love, mercy, and compassion from Israel.

Hosea's third child was a son called Lo-ammi (Hos. 1:8-9). The name means "not my people." This was the most devastating name yet. (Joseph Nally in a thirdmill.org Q. Article)

Other names derive from national, familial, seasonal, or physical circumstances (e.g., Ichabod, "the glory has departed"; or from nature (e.g., Jonah, "dove).

The birth narratives for both John, the Forerunner Prophet, and Yeshua, had their naming ceremonies on the 8th day in conjunction with their circumcision. Of John we read, *And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. And they would have called him Zechariah after his father, ⁶⁰ but his mother answered, "No; he shall be called John."* Luke 1:59-60

Of Jesus we read, ²¹*And when eight days were completed so that he could be circumcised, he was named Jesus, his name that he was called by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.* Luke 2:21 LEB

The bestowal of the name Jesus (Yashua) has great importance because it tells us who he is and what his mission was. *First, as to his person*, Yeshua is built of the name of God YHWH (Yahweh). Some translations use a Latin form, Jehovah, but the J sound is not in the original language and the purer form is preserved in the term Hallelujah (Praise Yah), meaning “praise Yahweh.” The meaning of the name is “Yahweh saves” or “Yahweh Savior.” Isaiah 12:2 reads, *Behold, God is my salvation. I will trust, and will not be afraid; for Yah, Yahweh, is my strength and song; and he has become my salvation.*”

That this is the true meaning of the name is stated in Matthew 1:20ff, “Behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, don’t be afraid to take to yourself Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She shall give birth to a son. You shall name him Jesus, for it is he who shall save his people from their sins.”

²² Now all this has happened that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying,

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall be with child,
and shall give birth to a son.

They shall call his name Immanuel,”

which is, being interpreted, “God with us.” Isaiah 7:14

²⁴ Joseph arose from his sleep, and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took his wife to himself; ²⁵ and didn’t know her sexually until she had given birth to her firstborn son. **He named him Jesus.**

God has a personal covenant name, “Yahweh,” and he has given it to his unique Son, Yeshua, Jesus!

He named him Jesus as recognition of his origin from God by the Holy Spirit. Thus he is described by Isaiah “*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*” Isaiah 9:6

The conception followed by birth of Jesus by Mary was through the power of the Holy Spirit. By this divine and human deed “the Word became flesh and lived among us.” God manifested in the flesh for our salvation!

Second, *as to his mission*, Jesus is the Savior, the Promised Deliverer, the One sent from the Father to rescue us from our captivity to sin and the law of sin and death. Paul in Acts 13 declares, “*Of this man's offspring (speaking of King David) God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised.*”

In the days of his earthly ministry Jesus stated his mission, “*The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost*” (Luke 19:10). How did he accomplish this?

Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28

Did Jesus accomplish his mission? When Jesus had spoken these words at his last Passover before he suffered and died on the cross, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. John 17:1-3

Paul in his letter to the church in Phillip writes or quotes a creedal hymn : Christ Jesus: ⁶Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself

***by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!***

⁹ ***Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,***

¹⁰ ***that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,***

***in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.*** Philippians 2:6-11.

This last phrase comes from Isaiah 45:22f

Turn to me and be saved, all who live at the ends of the earth,
because I am **El**, and there is no other.

²³ I have bound myself with an oath.

A word has gone out from my righteous mouth
that will not be recalled,

“Every knee will bow to me
and every tongue will swear allegiance.”

We call his name Jesus (Yahweh Savior) because Christ (Messiah) Jesus came into the world to save sinners!

John writes, *And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.* 1 John 4:14

Peter declares, *And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.* Acts 4:12

Paul proclaims, Romans 10:9 *if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

The Holy Name

To the name of our salvation
praise and honor let us pay,
which for many a generation
hid in God’s foreknowledge lay,
but with holy exultation
we may sing aloud today.

2. Jesus is the name we treasure,
name beyond what words can tell;
name of gladness, name of pleasure,
ear and heart delighting well;

name of sweetness passing measure,
saving us from sin and hell:

3. Name that calls for adoration,
name that speaks of victory;
name for grateful meditation
in the vale of misery;
name for loving veneration
by the citizens on high:

4. Name that still, whoever preaches,
speaks like music to the ear;
who in prayer this name beseeches
finds the strongest comfort near;
who its perfect wisdom reaches
heavenly joy possesses here.

5. Name of majesty, exceeding
every other power or name;
name of health, for sinners needing
rescue in a world of shame;

name in which the church is pleading,
sight to blind, and feet to lame.

6. Jesus, we in love adoring,
your most holy name revere,
Lord of all, your grace imploring
so to write it in us here
that hereafter, heavenward soaring,
we may sing with angels there.

Anon

Hymn-"Jesus, Name of Wondrous Love"

Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
name all other names above,
unto which must ev'ry knee
bow in deep humility.

2 Jesus! Name decreed of old,
to the maiden mother told,
kneeling in her lowly cell,
by the angel Gabriel.

3 Jesus! Name of priceless worth
to the fallen here on earth
for the promise that it gave,
"Jesus shall his people save."

4 Jesus! Name of mercy mild,
given to the Holy Child
when the cup of human woe
first he tasted here below.

5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
under all the mighty heav'n
whereby those to sin enslaved
burst their fetters and are saved.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
human name of God above;
pleading only this, we flee
helpless, O our God, to thee.

Words-William Howe Tune- Carlson

This is Wayne Conrad with Bible Insights. Remember God has name Yahweh and he gave it to his unique Son, Jesus!