

# SEED & BREAD

FOR THE SOWER    ISA. 55: 1 0    FOR THE EATER  
BRIEF BIBLICAL MESSAGES FROM

## THE WORD OF TRUTH MINISTRY

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# CALL HIS NAME JESUS

This study is written for those believers who are experiencing the impulse to pursue after God, those who would gladly say with David: "**When Thou saidst, Seek ye My face; my heart said unto Thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek**" (Psa. 27:8). This seeking is after God Himself, and not His things. It may be hard to believe, but the Bible tells us that we can know God the same as we can know any other person that comes within the field of our relationships. As believers we possess spiritual faculties by which we can know God Himself, if we will only use them.

The impetus to know God originates with Him. This removes every vestige of credit from us if we are engaged in seeking Him. When one says in truth: "**As the deer panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God**" (Psa. 42: 1), it will be because God has generated this thirst within him. Except a man be generated from above, no such yearning will ever exist in his life and character.

It has been said before, and it will bear many repetitions, that one becomes a believer by believing the truth that is at hand. This is the first step of faith, and it is the Spirit of God that makes it possible. And it may well be that when this first step is taken, our whole being will sense the importance of it and leap up in joyous recognition of a newly-found relationship with God our Savior.

At this point many are inclined to feel that this is the absolute end-God has been found, the goal has been reached. In fact they will be told by many that they have reached the summit, and they will be encouraged to be satisfied and content with this small amount. They fail to realize that they have only reached the point that permits them to say: "**O Jehovah, Thou art my God; early will I seek Thee**" (Ps. 63:1).

To have found God in Jesus Christ and yet to seek after Him may sound like a paradox, but this fact has the force of all Scripture to support it. However, most who take the first step are quickly led by false shepherds to become involved in programs, services, meetings, committees, and a world of nervous, exhausting, make-work

activities which occupy so much time and attention that it is utterly impossible for them to ever obey God's directive to **'Be still, and know that I am God'** (Psa. 46:10).

Much of my life has been spent tracking down the intimations of truth that are to be found all through the sacred Scriptures. I am ever giving particular attention to any suggestion of truth that will lead to a fuller understanding and deeper appreciation of the One Whom I love and serve, my Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus. I have found much, but this has caused me to realize how much more there is to know concerning Him. However, when I have laid hold of a truth, all I can do for others is to point out the clues and set forth the facts. I cannot simply pass it on to them.

I could easily pass a hundred dollar bill to you, and you would be richer by that amount; but God's truth cannot be passed on in this manner. Unless you will follow it out, consider the facts, and exercise your heart and mind concerning it, it will never be to you anything more than something I have said. In view of this I ask the reader to keep in mind what has already been said, for it is my purpose to set before you something grand and glorious concerning the Lord Jesus Christ. The facts presented can be checked by anyone who has access to *Young's Analytical Concordance*.

In the Hebrew Scriptures we find the most sacred name in the universe, which is often called "the tetragrammaton," because it is a name consisting of four letters. Since all letters in the Hebrew alphabet have names, we can say that these four are YOD, HE, WAW, and HE. In English this is usually written YHWH, but when Hebrew is transliterated into certain European languages it will read JHVH. Since ancient Hebrew had no vowels, pronunciations were handed down orally. Therefore, it is impossible for anyone today to say how YHWH was pronounced in the time when the Old Testament was written. If a modern Hebrew Bible is examined, one will find innumerable little dots and dashes below, above, and in the letters. These are called vowel points, and these were added by the Massorites in order to preserve the pronunciations that were current in the period between about 600 A.D. and 900 A.D.

In the first attempt of the Hebrew scholars to supply vowels for YHWH it came out YeHoWaH. But during the middle ages certain Gentile scholars transcribed Y as *J* and was *v* so the name *Yehowah* became *Jehovah*. However, many are constantly saying that this is wrong, that we should start with YHWH, then add the vowels *a* and *e* and say *Yahweh*. They even insist on this spelling and pronunciation as religious principles. There can be no objection to this spelling and pronunciation, but if I were seeking such exactitude I would insist on *Yehweh*. After much consideration, I have decided to stay by the name *Jehovah*. This is now good English. It is a suitable representation of the Hebrew name YHWH. It is not a translation or transliteration. I am convinced that the name YHWH is untranslatable into any language, unless we

would use a long descriptive phrase, but this would be opinion and interpretation, not translation.

There is one peculiarity in connection with the name YHWH of which we need to be aware. It has a shortened form or abbreviation which is simply the letters YOD and HE. This shortened form comes to us in English as *Jah*, and it will be found in Psalm 68:4 and forty-eight other places. It is often used when this name is compounded with another. This can be seen in the word "Hallelujah," which means "Praise Jah."

In ancient Hebrew we find the name YHWSHW A, which when we add the vowels comes out as *Yehowshuwa*. The *King James* translators anglicized this into *Jehoshua*, and in later occurrences to the familiar name *Joshua*. The meaning of this name is easily understood due to the Biblical record of how it was first given.

When Moses was directed by God to search out the land of Canaan, he was told to select one man from each tribe who was already a tribal ruler (Num. 13:2). The one selected from the tribe of Ephraim was *Oshea*, the son of Nun (Num. 13:8). His name meant "Savior," and to his name Moses prefixed the shortened form of Jehovah, so that from that time forward he bore the exalted name of Jehovah-Savior (Num. 13:16). Thus *Oshea* became *Yehowshua*, and this has been anglicized into *Joshua*. And it needs to be carefully noted that *Oshea* was given this name by Moses as a constant reminder and proclamation that it was Jehovah who was saving and delivering, even though He used a human agent to lead Israel over Jordan, conquer the land, and give portions to the tribes of Israel.

Thus, from this we learn that in Hebrew we have the untranslatable name of Jehovah, and its shortened form *Jah*. Then we have the name *Oshea*, which is translatable. It means Savior. To this is attached the shortened form of Jehovah which when translated means Jehovah Savior. So whether we say *Yehowshuwa* or *Jehoshua* or *Joshua*, there is no difference in meaning—they all mean *Jehovah-Savior*.

When the Old Testament was translated into Greek several hundred years before Christ (*The Septuagint Version*), a meaningful word had to be found to render *Yehowshuwa*, and the word used was *Iesous* (pronounced, Ee-ay-SOOCE). This was a good choice, for when the New Testament was written the name *Iesous* is found on almost every page. Then when English translations were made of the Greek, *Iesous* became *Jesus*. So, as already said, whether we say *Yehowshuwa*, *Jehoshua*, *Joshua*, *Iesous*, or *Jesus*, we are saying *Jehovah-Savior*. The change is only in the language, not in the meaning.

If we say *gold* in English, or in French, or *oro* in Spanish, we will in no way lower the price or decrease the value of this precious metal. The difference will be found only in the language.

The *King James* translators, in dealing with the sacred name YHWH decided to use the name LORD and print it in capital letters. This, in my opinion, was a mistake, for it gives a translation of an untranslatable name. It practically erases the name *Jehovah* from the Old Testament. And since the name *Jesus* is so poorly understood, it would seem that the name *Jehovah* never appears in the New Testament. However, this is a false deduction for the name *Jehovah* is found each time we come upon the name *Jesus*.

Early in the record God has given us of His Son, we read that the angel of the Lord declared to Joseph that his wife Mary would "**Bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His name Jesus**" (Matt. 1 :21). Since English was not the language of Joseph, it must have been that what he heard from the angel was, "Call His Name *Yehowshuwa*," that is, *Jehovah-Savior*. And here it is most evident that this name did not speak of salvation to be wrought by another, as it did in the case of Oshea, the son of Nun. He was to be called Jehovah-Savior for He was the Savior whose name is Jehovah. He would save His people from their sins, and is given the sacred name on this account.

In Acts 4: 10, Peter declared that it was in the name of Jehovah-Savior Messiah, the Nazarene, that the lame man had been perfectly healed, and insisted that there was salvation in no one else, adding "**there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**"

In the Old Testament salvation was always of Jehovah. There was no other name they could call upon for deliverance and help. "**I, even I am Jehovah: and beside Me there is no Savior.**" (Isa. 43: 11 and 45:21,22). Was Peter then saying that Jehovah had retired and Jesus was now the Savior? Impossible! He is insisting that Jesus is Jehovah-Savior, and the only One in Whom salvation can be found.

Paul declares that: "**At the name of Jesus (Jehovah-Savior) every knee should bow**" (Phil. 2: 10). This same truth is declared of Jehovah in Isa. 45:23. Truly, Jesus is Jehovah!

There is much more to say, yes, that needs to be said, but it cannot be said now. In the meantime let us sing anew with clearer understanding: "All hail the power of Jesus name/Let angels prostrate fall/Bring forth the royal diadem/and crown Him LORD OF ALL"

"**Acquaint now thyself with Him, and be at peace; thereby good shall come unto thee.**" Job 22:21.

**End Issue No. SB123**

