

THE NAME OF JESUS

An angel informed Joseph that the child Mary would give birth to was to be named JESUS for a very special reason!

Matthew 1:21 (NKJV)

21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

The name “**Jesus**” in the New Testament is the Hebrew name “**Joshua**” in the Old Testament (cf. Acts 7:45; Heb. 4:8). It essentially means “**Savior**,” and yet, more literally, it means “**God-Savior**.” This is Who Jesus is. He is God-Savior! While Joshua in the OT was a type of savior that God used, Jesus alone is shown to be THE SAVIOR! He didn’t just have the name Joshua but rather was JESUS THE CHRIST!

Heb. (Yehoshua/Joshua)

Gk. (Iesous)

Eng. (Jesus)

“Yehoshua” is a compound name consisting of two words.

“Yeho” is a prefix form of God’s Name **YHWH**.

“Shua” means to deliver, rescue, or **save**.

So very literally, Jesus means “YHWH saves” or “YHWH is salvation.”

Jesus is YHWH God Who saves. The name Jesus, therefore, means Savior because He is the God Who saves. This is His NAME. This is WHO He is.

Jesus is Savior and God all wrapped up in ONE person!

Isaiah 43:11 (NKJV)

11 I, even I, am the **LORD [YHWH]**, And besides Me there is no **savior [Deliverer]**.

His Name would be called Jesus because He would save His people (that is God’s people) from their sins. He is the Savior from sin and only God can do this because He alone is Savior – meaning Jesus had to be God (cf. Isa. 43:11). He is the God-Savior! Commentators believe that presenting Jesus as YHWH Who will save His people from their sins really amounts to an

indirect reference to Psalm 130:7-8 where YHWH is spoken of as redeeming Israel from all iniquity.

In summary, the name JESUS means God-Deliverer or God-Savior. The Greek name “Jesus” corresponds to the Hebrew name Joshua, which literally means “**YHWH is salvation**“. The name “Jesus” emphasizes His humanity as well as His Deity. It was given to Him just prior to His birth as He had to become man to die (shed His blood) in order to save us (cf. Heb. 2:14; Ex. 3:8-15).

Therefore, the name JESUS is often called His human name and yet it is essentially tied to His deity.

Jesus is God – Jesus is Savior!

In saving faith, we believe in Him as our personal Lord-God and Savior!