

# YHWH- Father Yahusha-Mashiach

## Introduction

When it comes to the names of the Father and the Son Messianic congregations with very few exceptions, adopt a sloppy attitude. The ambivalence with which many Messianic leaders approach this subject today has led to an almost universal apathy where the names of The Father and The Son are concerned. Yet Our Father could not be more emphatic in how we are to refer to Him and commanded that He only be referred to by His name. He even spelt out His name to prevent us from erring and commanded that we address Him accordingly. Unfortunately religious tolerance seems to be threading its way through true faith and when this leads to transgression it needs to be nipped in the bud. Not to obey Our Father is to transgress against Him and not to address Him correctly is to transgress His third commandment. Remember James 2:10 says that to break one of YHWH's commandments is to break them all. In other words a single transgression places a person on the wrong side of the Father and those on the wrong side of the Father will not achieve salvation.

The third commandment flows from YHWH's instruction to Moses in Exod.3:13-15. This is part of the dialogue between Moses and Elohim at the burning bush, when Elohim chose Moshe to lead the Israelites out of Egyptian bondage:

*Moses said to Elohim, "Look, when I appear before the people of Israel and say to them, 'The Elohim of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is His name?' what shall I tell them?" Elohim said to Moses, (Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh) "I Am/Will Be, Who I Am/Will Be" And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I Am, has sent me to you.'" And Elohim said further to Moses, "Thus you are to say to the children of Israel Yud-Heh-Waw-Heh,\* Elohim of your fathers, the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob has sent me to you. This is My name forever and this is My memorial name to all generations." (Exod.3:13-15).*

\*Yud-Heh-Waw-Heh or Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh is written in the short form YHWH or YHVH respectively and called the Tetragrammaton. Although there is some confusion how to pronounce the name, Yahweh is generally believed to have been the original pronunciation. Others are Yahwah, Yahuwah, and Yahuah etc. However, the Tetragrammaton is what we are given so why not use this?

This is my memorial name to all generations. The word memorial is a translation of the Hebrew word 'zeker (zay-ker) which means remembrance, memorial or memory. So what our Father is saying here is: YHWH is My name forever and this is how I am to be remembered (referred to) by all generations. This is a direct instruction from the Father, an instruction everyone but a few is disobeying.

## 'Shem' Not Name

There is a reason why YHWH insists on everyone using His 'Shem' (name) but it is ensconced in the Hebrew language and unfortunately gets lost in translation. We must remember the Old Testament was written in Hebrew and subsequently translated into other languages.

The word 'name' is the English translation of the Hebrew word 'shem' pronounced 'shaym' but unlike name the root meaning of 'shem' expands well beyond just labelling a person.

English	=	Name	=	A person's label.
Hebrew	=	Shem	=	Name, Position, Reputation, Fame, Esteem, Memorial.

The name of a person is generally nothing more than a label, whereas insofar as the Scriptures and in particular the Old Testament is concerned, the Hebrew 'shem' encompasses position, reputation, fame, esteem or memorial.

Thus, a person's 'shem' is not just a label as is name, it is a memorial of their authority, their individuality and their uniqueness. So in the context of Exod.3:13-15, YHWH's name is an expression of:

- His character,
- His individuality,
- His authority,
- His uniqueness.

In effect YHWH's name is an expression of his totality and supremacy. Indeed scripture confirms YHWH's presence, power and protection all reside in His name:

*Presence/existence:*

- *I sing praise to your name, most high. (Ps.9:2),*
- *May His name endure for ever (Ps.72:17),*
- *But I have chosen Jerusalem, for My name to be there. (2Chron.6:6).*

*Power:*

- *Through your name we tread down those who rise up against us (Ps.44:5),*
- *And the nations shall fear the name of YHWH (Ps.102:15).*

*Protection*

- *Save me, YHWH by thy name... (Ps.54:1),*
- *The name of YHWH is a strong tower, the righteous run into it and are safe. (Prov.18:10).*

In other words,

**His name is not just who He is - His name is what He is  
HE IS HIS NAME.**

**'La'shav' Not Vain.**

Now when we realise He is His name, the third Commandment takes on a completely new significance.

*You are not to take the name of YHWH your Elohim in vain because YHWH will not leave unpunished the one who takes His name in vain.(Exod.20:7).*

The use of the word vain in this context has nothing to do with pride or self-esteem. Used in the above context it is expressed in its attributive form meaning to produce no result or without effect.

**English = Vain = Producing no result or without effect**

The original Hebrew is 'La'shav' the root meaning of which is 'to bring to naught or nothingness.'

**Hebrew = La'shav = To bring to naught or nothing**

Vain in its attributive form shows complete compatibility with the root meaning of 'La'shav.' This being understood we can now provide a more coherent 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment,

*You are not to bring the name of YHWH your Elohim to naught (of no effect) because YHWH will not leave unpunished the one who brings His name to naught (of no effect).*

This more plainly accords with YHWH's desire for His name to be used eternally and not to be hidden or erased from use. Thus, we can say,

## BECAUSE YHWH IS HIS NAME

**To bring YHWH's name to nothing - Is to bring YHWH to nothing**

**To bring YHWH to nothing - Is to deny YHWH**

This is serious stuff. YHWH does not tolerate people who do not obey Him. He commands us not to bring His name to naught, not to erase His name because to do so, is to erase Him personally. Yet this is exactly what the synagogue, the Church and some in the Messianic movement have done.

In disobedience to His instruction for everyone to refer to Him by name Christians, Jews even some Messianic Communities have all replaced His name with other terminology:

- Judaism                      Has replaced His name with Hashem, Adonai
- Christianity                Has replaced His name with Lord & God
- Messianics                  Has replaced His name with Lord, God, Adonai, Hashem.

In most religious systems today the Father's name has been erased and replaced with titles Let us see what scripture has to say about hiding or removing His name:

*If you will not hear, and if you will not set it on your heart to give glory to My name, says YHWH of hosts, then I will send the curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. And indeed, I have cursed it, because you are not setting it (His name) on your heart. (Mal.2:2).*

Look at what YHWH is saying here? If you do not glorify his name and wear it on your heart, He will send you a curse. Erasing His name is not glorifying it, erasing his name is not wearing it on your heart. So where does this verse leave all those who have erased His name? Are they going to be blessed? Not according to Malachi, according to this passage they're going to be cursed and this is straight from YHWH Himself.

You may ask where are these curses today? Insofar as the Jewish people are concerned, not to have experienced the blessings which YHWH had in store for them as described in the scriptures, was and remains to be their curse. The Church on the other hand, appears to grow in esteem however, scripture shows us that the curse YHWH has for the Church, will be in its end time judgement when the Church administration, along with the false prophet, is thrown into the lake of fire. So Christians beware!

Now let us consider a couple of verses from Revelation,

*I know your works. Behold, I have given a door being opened before you, and no one is able to shut it, for you have a little power and have kept My word, and have not denied (made void) My name. (Rev.3:8).*

YHWH has a relationship only with those who acknowledge Him by His name.

*And the nations were full of wrath; and Your wrath came, and the time of the judging of the dead, and to give the reward to Your slaves, to the prophets, and to the Holy ones, and to the ones fearing Your name, to the small and to the great, and to destroy those destroying the earth. (Rev.11:18).*

We do not live in fear/reverence of that which has been removed from our presence, from our minds. On the contrary, we forget it altogether. It is a bit of an oxymoron to say we have removed YHWH's name for reasons of reverence. What is more Mashiach did not agree with such a philosophy, quite the opposite, He endorsed the importance of using the Father's name to His disciples,

*I have revealed your Name to the men whom You gave to Me out of the world. They were Yours, and You gave them to Me; and they have kept Your Word. (John 17:6).*

Notice Mashiach does not say I have revealed 'you' to men but 'your name' to men. This is significant. Mashiach said He came for the lost sheep of Israel (Matt.15:24) and He tells His disciples not to go to the Gentiles (Matt.10:5). In other words, He came for the Jewish people. These Jews would be in the synagogue every week where they would hear the Old Testament read by the priests. So Mashiach did not have to reveal YHWH to them, they knew all about YHWH. However, contrary to YHWH's instruction, the temple priest had hidden his name, they ruled that the name was too sacred to be mentioned, so they had replaced it with Hashem and Adonai. For His disciples to teach in YHWH's truth, they had to become accustomed to using His name.

*"...Holy Father, keep through Your Name those whom You have given Me that they may be one as We are." (John 17:11).*

Here again Mashiach emphasizes the relevance of the Father's Name.

The fact that Mashiach felt it necessary to do this reiterates the fundamentality of referring to YHWH by His name and **only** by His name. YHWH does not waste words, He issues commands because they are necessary. He instructed us to use His name because He does not want to be confused with false gods. Remember Mashiach's response to Satan,

*'Man cannot live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of YHWH.*

We are to obey every word spoken by YHWH. These words from Mashiach prevent any massaging, diminution or deletion whatsoever of what the Father has instructed and

- **Our Father has instructed we refer to Him only by His memorial – His name,**
- **The third commandment instructs us not to erase His name,**
- **We are disobeying YHWH when we substitute His name with God, Lord, Hashem or Adonai.**

Replacing His name with common titles is to erase his name that is, to bring his name to naught.

Unfortunately when questioned on this issue most church leaders in particular are quite ambivalent; amazingly they consider this issue to be irrelevant. Well! If we worship an idol, is it fine? If we commit adultery, is it fine? If we commit murder, is it fine? If we covet, is it fine? Is the third Commandment of any lesser importance than any of these Commandments? Most Christians do not even know the personal name of the One they worship. Pagan worshipers address their idols as 'God' and 'Lord.' Lord is just a term that is synonymous with 'master'...a sign of respect; it is not an actual name. 'God' or 'Lord' is a word like President. It is a generic title of an office, not the name of the person in office. YHWH is emphatic that He be separated from pagan idols: it is for this reason He made the proclamation, *"I am YHWH your Elohim, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage."* just before giving Israel the Ten Commandments, leaving them in no doubt who is their Elohim. Identification is of paramount concern to YHWH, thus to refer to Him using similar terminology as that employed in pagan worship is totally unacceptable to Him. YHWH will not accept syncretism that is, the worship of Him in an incorrect manner we have an example of His judgement against those guilty of syncretism,

*And Nadav and Avihu, sons of Aharon, each took his censer and put fire in it, and put incense on it, and offered strange fire before YHWH, which He had not commanded them. And fire came out from YHWH and consumed them, and they died before YHWH. (Lev.10:1-2)*

These two sons of Aharon were guilty of worshipping in an un-prescribed manner and paid with their lives. We must worship YHWH only in the way He has instructed. Jews, Christians and some in the Messianic movement are just as guilty as Nadav and Avihu. Why would YHWH tell us His name for us just to ignore it?

Let us reiterate James 2:10 : if we disobey just one of YHWH's instructions we put ourselves on the wrong side of YHWH and if we are on the wrong side of YHWH we certainly will not enter into His kingdom. Humanity is not at

liberty to pick and choose which Commandments matter and which do not. YHWH chastised the Israelites for adopting a hit and miss philosophy with His commandments,

*Therefore, I have made you contemptible and vile before all the people because you did not keep My ways and were partial in applying the Torah/Law (Mal.2:9).*

Will YHWH treat those who have erased His name against His instruction any differently? YHWH will not admit the contemptible and vile into His kingdom.

**Let me raise another point, have you ever wondered why it is, the name of pagan gods: Asherah, Ashtoreth, Baal, Beelzebub, Dagon, Meni, Molech, Nebo, Tammuz are always quoted in Scripture but the name of the God of the Bible; YHWH, is nowhere to be found in a Christian Bible?**

Isn't that amazing? It is so blatant it has to be deliberate. Have you ever watched a play or film in which the name of the main character is completely avoided? Have you ever read a book in which the name of the hero is completely omitted? Of course you haven't, yet this is the situation with the most important person and the most prominent book available to humanity.

When we consider Exod.3:15 and the third Commandment, who are the leaders of the Synagogue and the Church serving, who are they obeying? Certainly not YHWH.

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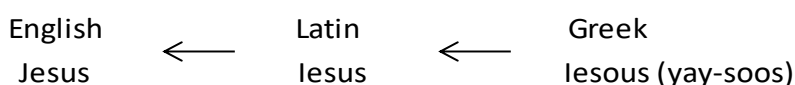
Sadly, this deceit is not limited to the Father's name, our Mashiach's name has also been erased just as effectively as that of the Father. Christians know Mashiach as Jesus but Jesus is not the name of the true Jewish Mashiach. Jesus is a false name and devoid of any true association with the real Mashiach. The principles given above apply equally to Mashiach as they do to The Father. Just as with The Father, Mashiach's 'Shem' (Name) is who He is.

Our true Mashiach was born, lived and died a Hebrew. He was raised in a Hebrew family with Hebrew parents and was given the Hebrew name; 'Yeshua'. What is certain is that He could never have been named Jesus because the letter 'J' did not enter the English language until well over 1,000 years after His birth. So from where does the name Jesus originate?

There are two ways to transfer words across a language; one is called 'translation' the other 'transliteration.' Translation is to transfer the meaning of the word only and not the sound of it. For example the English translation of Mashiach's Hebrew name is 'Yah saves.' This is the Hebrew meaning of the name Yeshua as confirmed by the angel in Matt.1:21. So if we were to rely on translation alone we would refer to Mashiach by the phrase 'the one who saves.' However, this is cumbersome and lacks clarity and so instead we transliterate the Hebrew. Transliteration is to transfer the sound of a word but not necessarily the meaning of it and so we have Yeshua or Yahusha.

Jesus however, has no equivalent in the Hebrew language therefore, it is neither a translation nor a transliteration of Mashiach's true Hebrew name. This itself is proof of the falsehood of the name Jesus. So where does the name Jesus come from?

The English name Jesus is a transliteration of a Latin name which itself is a transliteration of a Greek name. So tracing backwards from Jesus in effect what we have is,



The Greek spelling is pronounced 'yay-soos' which, being an entirely different sound to Yeshua/Yahusha, is not a transliteration of the Hebrew.

English   ←   Latin   ←   Greek   X   Hebrew  
 Jesus                    Iesus                    Iesous                    Yeshua

The fact is, it is impossible to transliterate Yeshua/Yahusha into Greek because there is no 'Y' sound as in yes in the Greek language nor is there a 'Sh' sound as in shame. Ultimately, Iesous (yay-soos) was the substitution agreed upon which ironically, scholars agree is associated with the pagan deity of healing and has nothing to do with the meaning of Mashiach's name Yeshua/Yahusha (Yah Saves).

Due to the incompatibility between the Greek and the Hebrew languages, not only has the sound of Mashiach's name been lost but also its meaning. Consequently, the name Jesus, being a derivative of Iesous, has neither the linguistic meaning nor any phonetic relationship with Mashiach's true name Yeshua. In other words if you start a process with incorrect principles (Iesous) the ultimate result (Jesus) cannot be correct.

When we realise that Mashiach's name Yeshua/Yahusha transliterates directly into English you have to wonder why English translators decided to rely on a Greek name associated with pagan worship and having no authenticity. Was it, as with the Father's name, a deliberate attempt to hide the name of the Son also? Remember the third commandment:

*"You are not to bring the name of YHWH your Elohim to naught because YHWH will not leave unpunished the one who brings His name to naught."*

Do you not think that this command would apply equally to the Son's name? After all, doesn't Mashiach state that He and the Father are One and that the Father is in Him and He in the Father? Indeed Scripture proves beyond any doubt that Mashiach is Elohim: compare Isa.45:21 and Phil.2:10. Just as with the Father's name so also has His Son's name been deliberately erased and brought to naught throughout Christianity.

### **Pronouncing Mashiach's Name**

There is a lot of contention about the correct pronunciation of Mashiach's name with most opting for Yeshua but I would like to present the following abstract from, what I consider to be a well-researched, article by David Rogers of Bible Truth:

#### **The Pronunciation of the Messiah's Name**

In order to properly pronounce the Hebrew name of the Messiah, we must return to the Hebrew spelling and look at similar names and how they are pronounced. The Hebrew manuscripts record the name of Joshua some 144 times in the Tanak (Old Testament). This name is spelled by the letters **[vwwhy]** which are the letters called yuhd, hay, vav, sheen, ayin. The name as originally written did not have vowel points. The vowel points were added by the rabbis around the tenth century of the common era to aid in remembering how they pronounce the Hebrew. The rabbis pronounced this name as "Yehoshua" and so gave the vowel points for this pronunciation so that in today's Masoretic Hebrew text it appears as **[;vuAhy>**

But the rabbis' pronunciation is not inspired. Just as it is a commonly accepted assumption that the rabbis intentionally scrambled the vowel points under the name of Elohim **hwwhy** (*Yahuwah*) in order to conceal its proper vocalization, it is also likely that to continue to hide the correct pronunciation of **hwwhy** (*Yahuwah*), the rabbis intentionally mispronounced **[vwwhy]** and therefore gave this name the wrong vowel points to propagate this mis-vocalization.

The reasons the rabbis would not pronounce Joshua's name correctly may be twofold: First, they didn't want to pronounce the first three letters of **hwhy** (*Yahuwah*) which occur in the Hebrew name Joshua. And secondly, because the Messiah was given this name, the rabbis would not pronounce it correctly, because they did not want to dignify his claim that he is equal with Elohim.

The actual pronunciation is ascertained by considering several other Hebrew names in the Scriptures, the vocalization of which is not disputed. First, the poetic shortened form of **hwhy** (*Yahuwah*) is seen numerous times in the Psalms in the expression **Hy** **Wll.h**; ("hallelu Yah"), which means *praise Yah*. **Hy** is the first syllable in the name of **hwhy** and is correctly pronounced in the Hebrew Psalms as "Yah." (The dot in the letter **H** ["hey"] suggests that the "h" sound is to be fully pronounced rather than to be diminished or faded in vocalization - which would be the case otherwise. Normally an "h" at the end of a word fades and becomes virtually silent. Thus, the "h" in Yah is to be fully pronounced.)

Additionally, there are Hebrew names which use the first three letters of the name **hwhy** - namely **why**. Yeshayahu **Why** **ā**[.v;(y> (Isaiah in Isaiah 1:1), Yirmyah **Why** **βm.r**>y**l** (Jeremiah in Jer 1:1) and Eliyah **WhY** **liae** (Elijah in 1 Kings 17:1) all attest to the correct pronunciation of the first three letters of the Name. In each of these three names, the last three letters **why** are pronounced "Yahu." The rabbis pronounce these same letters in Joshua's name as "Yeho"! But there is no compelling evidence or reason why *Yahu* should be vocalized differently merely because it occurs at the beginning of the Messiah's name. Thus, instead of the rabbinic pronunciation "Yeho," we should render the first part of Elohim's name **hwhy** and the first part of Messiah's human name **[vwhy** as "Yahu."

The final part of Messiah's Hebrew name is traditionally rendered "shua", but this too is incorrect. The "oo" (u) part of this is the pronouncing of the rabbinic vowel point between the sheen and the ayin. The vowel points were not part of the original spelling of the Hebrew. These "vowels" were added by the rabbis more than a millennium after the Scriptures were written. So, if we remove this uninspired rabbinic vowel pointing and pronounce only the original inspired spelling of this name, we should be pronouncing this last part of his name as "sha."

The reason for this is twofold. First, we note that the names for the prophets Yeshayahu **Why** **ā**[.v;(y> (Isaiah in Isaiah 1:1) and Elisha **[v'Ûy** **lia/-** (Elisha in 1 Kings 19:16) both affirm that "sheen" followed by "ayin" is correctly pronounced "sha." *Yeshayahu* has the same meaning as **[vwhy**. *Yeshayahu* means "he saves, (that is) Yahu", while **[vwhy** means "Yahu saves." *Elisha'* has the meaning, "My El saves."

Secondly, if the name had the "shua" vowel point and rendering, the meaning of the name would be "Yahu is opulent." And we are certain that he is not! The Hebrew word **[;WV** (*shua*) has two distinct meanings. The first is "cry for help, scream" and the

second is "opulence, wealth, rich, affluent." Certainly, the "shua" ending on Messiah's name is not possible, else his name would mean, "Yahu is crying for help" or "Yahu is affluent"!

The Hebrew root from which the name comes is [v;yO: [v;y†' ("yesha" or "yasha"). This word means **"help, deliverance, salvation."** *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* says our word "yesha" means 1. to receive help; 2. to be victorious; or 3. to accept help. *The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* attests that the meaning of our word "yesha" is to "be saved, be delivered (Niphal); save, deliver, give victory, help; be safe; take vengeance, preserve (Hiphil). Clearly, this fits the Messiah's name which was given because he was to **"save his people from their sins."** The [v ending of the word "yesha" clearly has the "sha" vocalization. Thus, Messiah's name has the same vocalization since it was taken from the root word, "yesha" - to save.

Putting it all together, we take the "Yahu" which is demonstrated to be the common pronunciation of "yud, hay, vav" and the "sha" which is the common pronunciation of "sheen, ayin" and we arrive at *Yahusha*. Thus the Messiah's correctly spelled and pronounced name is not "Yehoshua" nor "Yahushua" nor "Yahshua" but rather, *Yahusha*, which translated means, "Yahu saves."

When calling upon the name which is above every name, I'm certain that we want to be calling upon the correct name. There are many other names which make claim to be great. Let's not make the mistake of calling upon our Messiah in the wrong name. If we call upon a name which is the name of a false deity, we can't be sure of what response we might get. Nor could we be sure of who is responding.

The Messiah of Scripture has a real name. It is not *Jesus*. His real name, the name which we should be pronouncing with our lips, is the name *Yahusha*. When you call upon the name of the Messiah, be sure to use his real name. *Yahusha* is his name.

## Conclusion

Replacing the name of the Father with vague titles and substituting the true name of Mashiach with Jesus a name associated with a pagan deity, is to worship in a disobedient manner and we should remember what happened to Aharon's two sons for committing a similar transgression.

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