

ON THE NAMES OF JESUS A 21-DAY DEVOTIONAL



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MATTHEW 1:21

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

ON THE NAME "JESUS"

The name "JESUS" comes from the Hebrew name "Joshua," meaning "Jehovah is salvation." When an angel of the Lord told Joseph the baby inside Mary's womb was conceived of the Holy Spirit, the name "JESUS" literally means "God is salvation." Jesus was sent into the world to be our salvation.

- According to Matthew 1:21, in what form would God send salvation?
- According to our verse again, why did God need to send salvation to people?
- What does God's salvation mean to you personally?



JOHN 3:13

"No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven."

ON THE NAME "SON OF MAN"

The name "SON OF MAN" seemed to be Jesus' favorite title of Himself. Used in all four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John), it was important for Jesus to declare His full humanity. The Son of Man experienced all the attributes of a real life in this world.

- According to John 3:13, where is the "Son of Man" from?
- According to our verse again, where is the "Son of Man" now? How did He get there?
- Why is it important for us to understand there is life after death? (Jesus ascended into heaven after His resurrection.)



JOHN 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

ON THE NAME "LAMB OF GOD"

The name "LAMB OF GOD" pointed the Jews in Israel during Jesus' time to the book of Exodus. When God told Moses to take a lamb for each household to institute the first Passover, the children of Israel were to take some of the blood of the lamb and put it on the doorposts of their homes. When the tenth plague struck Egypt, God would see the blood on the doorposts and "pass over" that house and not strike the firstborn. In the New Testament, Jesus is the fulfillment of the Passover lamb by His shed blood on the cross for our sins.

- According to John 1:29, what did John say the "Lamb of God" would do?
- How is the sacrifice of Jesus different than the sacrifice of that first Passover?
- Why is it important for us to understand that God sent His Son as a sacrifice for our sins?



JOHN 1:34

"And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

ON THE NAME "SON OF GOD"

The name "SON OF GOD" shows Jesus as the second member of the Trinity. The Trinity is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit--three Persons in One. Jesus as the Son of God shines forth His deity--that He is fully God who walked in Israel during the first century, physically present with His people. When Jesus was baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit, the full manifestation of the Trinity was now present in Jesus Himself.

- According to John 1:34, what did John the Baptist say?
- Who are the three members of the Trinity?
- How does understanding the Trinity draw you closer to God?



ISAIAH 53:3

"He is despised and rejected by men,
A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.
And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him;
He was despised, and we did not esteem Him."

ON THE NAME "MAN OF SORROWS"

The name "MAN OF SORROWS" signifies Jesus' understanding of the pain of living in a fallen world. Having lived through pain Himself when He took our sins at the cross, He not only understood suffering physically as a Man, but also understood suffering as the Creator God who experienced personally the depth of the world's fallenness when He came down from heaven. We have a Savior God who deeply and personally understands all of our sorrows and grief.

- According to Isaiah 53:3, what did Jesus experience as a Man?
- Again looking at our verse, how did we react to Him?
- How does this name of Jesus speak to you personally?



REVELATION 22:16

"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

ON THE NAME "THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR"

The name "BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR" shows the fulfillment of all Jesus came to do. First mentioned in the book of Numbers, Balaam the prophet spoke of "A Star [that] shall come out of Jacob" (Numbers 24:17). Jesus was born of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Judah (one of the twelve sons of Jacob), and of the lineage of David. As the promised hope of the world, He now and forever shines as the bright morning star.

- According to Revelation 22:16, what did Jesus do?
- Again looking at our verse, who did Jesus say that He is?
- What do you think of when you hear the phrase "bright morning star?"



ISAIAH 9:6

For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

ON THE NAME "PRINCE OF PEACE"

The name "PRINCE OF PEACE" points to Jesus when He returns to this earth to rule and reign from Jerusalem for the 1,000 year millennial kingdom (see Revelation 20:4-6). During His second coming to earth, He will establish a peaceful government which will show forth God's peace all over the world for literally 1,000 years.

- According to Isaiah 9:6, what shall be on "His shoulder"?
- Looking at our verse again, what other other names for Jesus are associated with "Prince of Peace"?
- What does the hope of a peaceful, 1,000 year kingdom with Jesus ruling and reigning on earth mean to you?



JOHN 6:48

"I am the bread of life."

ON THE NAME "BREAD OF LIFE"

The name "BREAD OF LIFE" signifies Jesus as the sustainer of all life. Just as we are fed physically by food, Jesus is the Living Bread that feeds our soul. And just as we need food daily to survive, we need Jesus' Word every day to nourish and grow our soul and spirit through His sustenance. He is ready to give us the "fresh bread" of Himself every day when we open up our Bibles.

- According to John 6:48, who did Jesus say He is?
- Looking at our verse again, what kind of bread is Jesus?
- What does the need for Jesus every day as "the bread of life" mean to you?



JOHN 8:12

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

ON THE NAME "LIGHT OF THE WORLD"

The name "LIGHT OF THE WORLD" speaks of Jesus as the one who forgives sin and iniquity, where condemnation no longer exists for a child of God (see Romans 8:1). Jesus is the light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it (John 1:5). Satan could never grasp or understand the depth of God's love shown through the sacrifice of His Son. Jesus' love is the light that will always and forever pierce through the darkness.

- According to John 8:12, who did Jesus say that He is?
- Looking at our verse again, what did Jesus say about the one who follows Him?
- How does this name of Jesus minister to you personally?



JOHN 10:11

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep."

ON THE NAME "THE GOOD SHEPHERD"

The name "THE GOOD SHEPHERD" tells us the character of God through His Son Jesus as that of a good shepherd. As David writes in Psalm 23, a good shepherd cares for the sheep as personally and intimately as his own life. He even gives up his life for the life of his own sheep. A bad shepherd, who is a hireling, will flee from protecting the sheep when adversity or danger comes. Jesus, as our Good Shepherd, is always with us, providing and protecting us to the end.

- According to John 10:11, who did Jesus say He is?
- According to our verse again, what does the good shepherd do?
- How has Jesus shown Himself to be a good shepherd in your life?

COLOSSIANS 2:9-10

"For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power."

ON THE NAME "HEAD OF ALL PRINCIPALITY AND POWER"

The name "HEAD OF ALL PRINCIPALITY AND POWER" signifies Jesus as the Head over all creation. There is no darkness, no evil, no plot of Satan's that Jesus doesn't already know about and has already provided the means of escape for the believer (see 1 Cor. 10:13). When darkness rears its head to take over, know we can go to the Head who is over every other authority and find refuge in Him.

- According to Colossians 2:9-10, what dwells in Jesus?
- Looking at our verse again, what are you in Him and why?
- How does the knowledge of this name of Jesus help you?



MATTHEW 1:23

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

ON THE NAME "IMMANUEL"

The name "IMMANUEL" literally means "God with us." The Second Member of the Godhead became part of His creation when He put on flesh and walked as a Man. Called the incarnation of Jesus Christ, He was born through His mother, the virgin Mary, lived, and gave up His life on the cross. God came as Man so that we can relate to God--Jesus Himself experiencing every facet of human life just as we do.

- According to Matthew 1:23, what would "the virgin" do?
- Looking at our verse again, what will they call Him and what does it mean?
- How does the knowledge of "God with us" give you deeper understanding about Jesus?



JOHN 11:25

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."

ON THE NAME "RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE"

The name "RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE" tells of Jesus' eternal life as God. Though He came to die for the sins of the world, death could not hold Him. Being both fully God and fully Man, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, showing His triumph over sin and death. All those who put their trust in Jesus for salvation have eternal life in Him and will never truly experience death, or separation from God forever. They will simply be in the presence of Jesus Christ in heaven.

- According to John 11:25, who did Jesus say He is?
- Looking at our verse again, what did Jesus say this means?
- What does eternal life in Jesus mean to you?

HEBREWS 2:17

"Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people."

ON THE NAME "MERCIFUL AND FAITHFUL HIGH PRIEST"

The name "MERCIFUL AND FAITHFUL HIGH PRIEST" speaks of Jesus as the intercessor who goes before God to pled for mercy on our behalf. Because Jesus came down from heaven and is fully man, He understands deeply and personally the temptations we face. He suffered all of them as well, yet was without sin (see Hebrews 4:15). Through His loving and faithful intercession on our behalf, we are forgiven of our sins. And we can continue to come to Him again and again for help in overcoming temptation, because He understands perfectly.

- According to Hebrews 2:17a, how was Jesus "made like His brethren"?
- Looking at the second part of our verse, for what reason did He do this?
- What does it mean to have a High Priest who goes before the throne of heaven on your behalf?

1 PETER 2:25

For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

ON THE NAME "SHEPHERD AND OVERSEER OF YOUR SOUL"

The name "SHEPHERD AND OVERSEER OF YOUR SOUL" tells us that Jesus is the One who watches over us and keep us. Like a good shepherd watching over his flock, Jesus traveled into dangerous places (the world) to rescue us from the eternal effects of sin and separation from God. Like helpless sheep wandering away from protection, Jesus reached out, picked us up, and brought us back to Himself. He now constantly keeps watch over our souls because we belong to Him forever.

- According to 1 Peter 2:25, what were we like?
- Looking at our verse again, but what have we now?
- How does knowing this about Jesus give you encouragement and hope?



COLOSSIANS 3:3-4

"For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."

ON THE NAME "CHRIST OUR LIFE"

The name "CHRIST OUR LIFE" means that in Christ we no longer belong to this world but instead belong to Jesus Christ. When we were saved, we died to our old sin nature. Our true redeemed self is now hidden until Christ appears for His church. When He comes, we will see Him and who we truly are in Him--the children of the Living God.

- According to Colossians 3:3-4, what happed to us when we accepted Christ?
- According to our verse again, what will happen when Christ appears?
- How does knowing this encourage and strengthen you?



1 CORINTHIANS 15:45

"And so it is written, 'The first man Adam became a living being.' The last Adam became a life-giving spirit."

ON THE NAME "THE LAST ADAM"

The name "THE LAST ADAM" refers to Christ as the Man who did what the first Adam could not and did not do. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and his wife fell short of the glory of God by disobeying God's command and eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (see Genesis 3:8-11). Jesus, as the Perfect Man, came to earth and obeyed the Father in all He did. Believing in Jesus' death on the cross for our sins and resurrection from the dead gives us eternal life in the Last Adam. We were all born physically of the first man Adam, but we can be born-again to eternal life through the Last Adam.

- According to 1 Corinthians 15:45, what does it say about the first man Adam?
- According to our verse again, what does it say about the last Adam?
- What further insight does this give you into Christ?



JOHN 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

ON THE NAME "THE TRUTH"

The name "THE TRUTH" refers to Christ, the author of all truth. As opposed to the devil, "a liar and the father of [lies]" (see John 8:44), what Christ says through His Word is only truth, and the one and only truth. He Himself is Truth (see John 18:37). We can rest on His promises, knowing every single one will come to pass exactly how He says.

- According to John 14:6, who did Christ say He is?
- In addition, from our verse John 14:6, what does Christ say concerning Himself?
- How are you comforted knowing Christ is the Truth?



JOHN 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

ON THE NAME "THE WORD"

The name "THE WORD" refers to Jesus as the spoken manifestation of God Himself. Jesus, fully man, came into the world as a man, is also God, existing for all time. It is through His Word, the Word of God, where we can know God personally. We read His Word and we draw near to Him in a personal relationship. We speak to Him through prayer; He speaks to us through His Word.

- According to John 1:1, when was the Word?
- Looking at our verse again, where is the is Word and who is the Word?
- What does Jesus as "the Word" mean to you personally?



EPHESIANS 5:23

"For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body."

ON THE NAME "HEAD OF THE CHURCH"

The name "HEAD OF THE CHURCH" refers to Jesus as the Husband of the Church. The Husband cares for, ministers to, and glorifies the church to present her to Himself. He does so through "the washing of water by the word." It is through the pure and perfect word of God we are sanctified (made in the image of Christ).

- According to Ephesians 5:23, what comparison is given for Christ?
- Looking at our verse again, what else does this verse tell us about Jesus?
- How does this understanding of the name and character of Jesus speak to you?



REVELATION 19:13

"He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God."

ON THE NAME "WORD OF GOD"

The name "WORD OF GOD" refers to Jesus having the last say over all things ever spoken by man in the world for all time. When Jesus returns to the earth, He will do so in full glory, defeating His enemies by simply speaking the word of God (see Revelation 19:21). It is the word of God which is called the "sword of the spirit" (see Ephesians 6:17). It is the Word of God which defeats the lies and deception of the devil forever.

- According to Revelation 19:13, what is Christ clothed in?
- Looking at our verse again, what is Jesus' name?
- What does the Word of God mean to you personally?