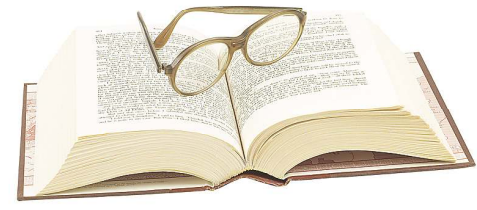


MESSAGES FROM WAYNE'S STUDY



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

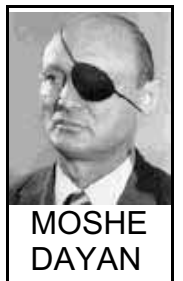
#0013

Well, I could tell you that I am a wagon maker, or more technically a “wainwright.” I don't think my parents thought I would build wagons when I grew up so there must have been another reason for the name, maybe in honor of Pastor Jim's friend, John Wayne.

But, seriously, what about Biblical names? Some names, especially in the Old Testament are of particular importance.

Others have no significance (that we can determine). Moses was very concerned about a name when he was told to go down into Egypt. When speaking with God in the burning bush, he ***“said to God, 'Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'WHAT IS HIS NAME?' what shall I say to them?' And God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And He said, 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'”*** Exodus 3:13-14 (NKJV)

Moses' name itself had meaning. ***And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, "Because I drew him out of the water.”*** Exodus 2:10 (NKJV) “drew him” is משה (moshe) and “Moses” is משה (mose) (You will have to look very close to see the difference.) The interesting thing about him is that the Jews refer to him as “Moses.” Their English translation of the Bible (Old Testament) translates the name “Moses” which is the Greek form of the name rather than the Hebrew form. Yet they use the name “Moshe” today, such as for the man to the right.



Some have more than one name, one had no name at all! אדם (adam) is the Hebrew word for “man.” Eve would say, “Come here, man!” Having two names was not uncommon. Paul had two, “Saul,” his Hebrew name and “Paul,” his Roman name. Then there was the poor chap whom God gave the name, ***And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the LORD to me, Call his name Mahershalhashbaz.*** Isaiah 8:2-3 (KJV). How would you like to go around with a name like that? Actually, the name has a meaning, literally, *Swift is booty, speedy is prey.*”

This child's birth was the near fulfillment of the far reaching prophecy, ***“Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”*** Isaiah 7:14 (KJV) Probably no one has had more names than God (the Godhead). Here is one of them, עִמָּנוּיִל (immanuel), meaning “God (is) with us.” Then, ***And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him THE NAME WHICH IS ABOVE EVERY NAME, that at the name of JESUS every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*** Philippians 2:8-11 (NKJV) “Jesus” is His Greek name, His name in Hebrew would be Joshua. Another case where the Roman name is used rather than the Hebrew name.

Is that a surprise to you? Well, think of it this way. Moses was the “great lawgiver.” Moses never got into the Promised land - the Law does not offer us that opportunity. It was Joshua that led Israel into the promised land. It is the New Testament “Joshua” (Jesus) who leads us into our heavenly home. The Old Testament Joshua was a “picture” (or type) of Jesus.

Take the Name of Jesus with you, Child of sorrow and of woe, It will joy and comfort give you; Take it then, where'er you go. (Hymn #231 in our “Hymns for the Family of God.”)