

## The Names of God: Part Four His Name Shall Be Jesus

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For our advent series we have been focusing on the names of God and specifically those names given to the coming Messiah. We have seen the Messiah described as the Prince of Peace, Everlasting Father and Immanuel-God with Us.

Today is the last day of Advent which brings us to the Christmas story where God reveals to Mary and Joseph what they are to name their baby. They are not to name him David, Elijah or Joseph Jr. They are to give him the name “Jesus” which means – The Lord Saves or The God who Saves

The name was descriptive of his mission of coming to earth.

### **Read Luke 1:26-38**

The angel also visits Joseph who was quite upset with Mary being pregnant and her wild story that the Holy Spirit is the father. He was planning on breaking off the engagement which was considered the same as divorcing her in that culture.

**Matthew 1:20-21** But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

Names were very important in those days. People didn’t just name their children cute names. They choose names that spoke of purpose and destiny. God chose the name for his son. God said His name shall be Jesus!

Every time people said his name they were calling him “The God Who Saves”.

The name Jesus is a Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua. Just as Joshua saved the people of Israel from the bondage and death of Egypt so Jesus would be like Joshua to save the world from bondage and sin.

The full name given to Jesus was The Lord Jesus Christ. The title Christ referred to the promised Messiah. And Lord refers to his divinity and authority.

When referring to God’s son, the name “Jesus”, becomes a name of power and authority. A name above all other names. A name that changes lives. A name that saves, delivers and sets free.

Let me share with you a few things the name of Jesus means to me.

**1. The name of Jesus reminds me that I am forgiven and have the promise of eternal life.**

During this season I think of why Jesus came at Christmas. He came to die for my sins. The name of Jesus reminds me that when we put our faith in Jesus he forgives all of our sins.

**John 1:12**

**Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— NIV**

To a Christian there is no more beautiful and precious name. The name of Jesus is everything to us. He has changed our lives. He has given us a hope and a future.

**2. The name of Jesus gives me daily hope to overcome my struggles.**

I am reminded that it is not me against the world. It is not me against the devil. It is not me against difficult people and problems.

Jesus has come to fight for me. Jesus has defeated and overcome the devil. Jesus is right by my side giving me strength each day. Jesus gives me victory over my sinful behavior and tendencies.

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11**

**Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. NIV**

This is what we were! But are no more! Jesus has forgiven us and cleansed us from the defilement and shame of our past.

He has brought us into a living relationship with God through Jesus. He has broken off the chains. He has delivered us from our habits and addictions and sins of all kinds.

He has given each one of us a new beginning. And if we fall, he is there to pick us back up and always gives us another new beginning.

STORY: Ryan Forbes ..... even after he made a commitment to Christ he still had to break through old patterns and renew his mind. He kept falling. Others gave up on him. But Jesus! But Jesus! – Never gave up on him. How wonderful that name!

### **3. The name of Jesus gives me faith to believe for healing.**

The doctors do their best and give their diagnosis, but they don't have the last say about my health. Jesus does.

Jesus has bought me with the price of his own shed blood and crucified body on the cross and I belong to him. Jesus has the final say and he has the ultimate power to heal the sick and even raise the dead if he so chooses.

There is power in the name of Jesus to heal every disease and overcome every demon.

#### **Matthew 10:1**

**He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. NIV - They did it in Jesus name.**

#### **Acts 3:16**

**By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see. NIV**

There is power in the name of Jesus. So much so that at even at the mention of his name the demons tremble. James 2:19; Acts 8:7

The message of Christmas is that Jesus has come to save and heal us. He is the God who saves. His name is Jesus!

### **4. The name of Jesus reminds me that I am here to represent him in all I do.**

I am a Christ follower. I am an ambassador of Jesus sent to represent him in my home, school, neighborhood and workplace.

#### **Colossians 3:17**

**And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**

I believe this includes giving credit to Jesus for the blessings we have and the things we are able to do with our talents and abilities.

#### **Conclusion:**

All authority in heaven and earth have been given to Jesus and resides in that name. That's why we end our prayers in Jesus Name. It is because of him that we are able to ask and receive from God.

**Phil 2:9-11**

**Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.  
NIV**

Closing Song: What a Beautiful Name