

Come to Understanding

They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding,
and they that murmured shall learn doctrine. — Isaiah 29:24

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Behold, God is My Salvation

In one of the clearest prophecies naming the coming Messiah, Isaiah stated that “God is my salvation” and emphatically declared His name as Yah Yahweh!

2 Behold, God *is* my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for Yah Yahweh *is* my strength and *my* song; he also has become my salvation. -Isaiah 12

He emphasizes the importance of His name by using it twice, in both its short and long forms. Yah Yahweh is written in Hebrew as יהוה יהוה (yh yhw). Various other versions of the English Bible often use titles, or combinations of a title and name, here. Examples include:

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The name of Isaiah prophetically declares the name of the coming Savior. It is written in Hebrew as שְׁעִידָה (yshayh), which is a combination of two words. The first is “ysha,” which means “save,” and the second is “yh,” which is the short form of the name of Yahweh, “Yah.” His name means “Yahweh has saved,” or “Yahweh saves.”

As Yahweh spoke through Isaiah, the word “ysha” was also translated as “savior.” Yahweh declared that He is the only Savior (ysha):

11 I, *even I*, *am* Yahweh; and besides me *there is no* savior. -Isaiah 43

Using the same word, “ysha,” Yahweh leaves no room for doubt that He is the only God and the only Savior:

21 Tell you, and bring *them* near; yes, let them take counsel together: who has declared this from ancient time? *who* has told it from that time? *have not* I Yahweh? and *there is no* God else besides me; a just God and a Savior; *there is none* besides me.

22 Look unto me, and be you saved, all the ends of the earth: for I *am* God, and *there is none* else. -Isaiah 45

Thus, the word “ysha” is translated into words such as “savior” and “save.” It is also the basis of the word, “salvation,” which is translated from the Hebrew word שְׁלוּחָה (yshweh), pronounced as “yěshuw`ah.” Therefore, Isaiah unambiguously declared that “Yah Yahweh” is God and He has “become my salvation.”

Consequently, those that understood the Scriptures knew what the angel meant as he announced the name of the coming Messiah. He would be named YAHSHUA because He “shall save his people from their sins:”

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and you shall call his name YAHSHUA: for he shall save his people from their sins. -Matthew 1

His name means “YAH is salvation.” It confirms the prophecies of Isaiah that Yah Yahweh has become my salvation and that Yahweh is the Savior.

Yahshua reminds us that, long before His coming as the Messiah, the Scriptures had been written about Him:

27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. -Luke 24

So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense,
and caused them to understand the reading. — Nehemiah 8:8

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Therefore, we should not be surprised to learn that His name was also clearly announced in the Scriptures, even by Moses. In one clear example, Moses changed the Hebrew name of **הוֹשֵׁעַ** (Oshea), whose name means “salvation,” to **יהושע** (Jehoshua):

16 These are the names of the men which Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Oshea the son of Nun Jehoshua. -Numbers 13

Recall that Hebrew is read from right to left. Therefore, it is clear that Moses added the Hebrew letter **י** to the beginning of Oshea’s name, right next to the **ה**. The letter **י** (Y) is known as “Yod,” which has the sound of “y,” as in “yes.” The letter **ה** (H) is known as “He” and has the sound of “h” aspirated, as in “hand.” (see George Bush, *A Grammar of the Hebrew Language*, Second Ed., New York: Gould, Newman & Saxton, 1839, p. 31.) These two Hebrew letters represent the short form of the name of God **יה** (YH), which is often pronounced as “YAH,” as in the word hallelujah.

There is some ambiguity as to why the letter “J” would have the “y” sound in hallelujah. It apparently arose when the Hebrew Scriptures were translated into the Greek language. The translators replaced **י** (Y) with the Greek letter “I,” known as “iota,” which has the sound of “i,” as in “it.” Then when the Greek was translated into the Latin (Roman) language, the “I” was retained in place of the Hebrew **י** (Y) (see David Sacks, *Letter Perfect: The Marvelous History of Our Alphabet From A to Z*, Broadway Books: New York, 2004, pp. 177-190). Likewise, when the Latin “I” was translated into English, it remained an “I.”

Therefore, in the 1611 translation of the Authorized Version of the English Bible, the Hebrew letter **י** (Y) that Moses added to the beginning of Oshea’s name was translated as an “I.” His name was written in that text as “Iehoshua,” as shown below in this reprint using the Roman type font (underline added for clarity):

16 These are the names of the men which Moses sent to spy out the land: and Moses called Oshea the sonne of Nun, Iehoshua.

(see *The Authorized Version of the English Bible 1611*, Vol. 1, William Aldis Wright, Ed., Cambridge University Press, 1909, p. 350.)

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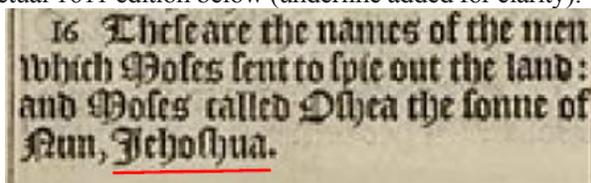
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However, the original Authorized Version of the English Bible, as it was printed in 1611, used a black-letter Gothic script in which the “I,” as in “Iehoshua,” looks like a modern “J,” as in “Jehoshua.” This is shown in the reprint from the actual 1611 edition below (underline added for clarity):

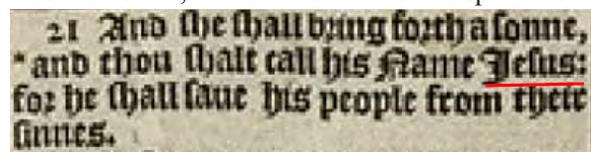


(see *Digitized KJV of 1611*, The King James Bible Trust, Westlea, Swindon, UK, www.kingjamesbibletrust.org, accessed December 2013.)

There was “neither J nor j” when the Latin alphabet was first printed in 1465. Julius, for example, was spelled as Iulius. Then printers began putting a left-leaning long tail at the base of the “i” in the ending of certain words. This made the “i” look like a modern “j.” For example, “Pompeii” became “Pompeij.” The custom was even used in numerals, such as Viii as Vij. The “i” and “j” were used interchangeably. (see *The American Bookmaker, A Journal of Technical Art and Information*, Vols. IV and V, New York: Howard Lockwood & Co., January-December, 1887, L. L. Roush, Vol. 4, p. 118; Frank M. Gregory, Vol. 5, p. 5.)

Eventually, the “J” was separated from the “I,” with which it was previously thought to be synonymous. It was given its own sound, which is “dzh,” as in “jest.” However, it has acquired the “y” sound in the word hallelujah, which is pronounced “halleluyah.” (see Jonathan Morgan, *Elements of English Grammar, with a Postscript, Analysis, and an Appendix*, District of Maine: Hallowell, 1814, Letter J.; Jacob Lowres, *Grammar of English Grammars or Advanced Manual of English Grammar and Language Critically and Historically Considered*, London: Longman, Green, Longman, Roberts, & Green, 1863, pp. 58-59).

Thus, the “y” sound in “hallelujah” sounds like HalleluYAH, which means “praise YAH.” This serves as a basis for believing that the name Moses gave Oshea, was YAH Oshea, meaning “YAH is salvation.” The name is written as Jehoshua and also as Joshua. He led the children of Israel into the promised land (see Joshua 1:1-2). Yahshua is the same name. It was written in the 1611 Bible as Iesus, as shown below (underline added for clarity). Note that the “I” resembles a “J,” which was later used to spell “Jesus:”



(see *Digitized KJV of 1611*)

Whether His name is written as Yahshua, Joshua, Iesus, or Jesus, it does not change. He is clearly YAH the Savior:

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and you shall call his name YAHSHUA: for he shall save his people from their sins. -Matthew 1

Behold, Yah Yahweh is my salvation! HalleluYAH!