Mistranslation
[10-05-19]

The religious world has taught that the written Word of God is without error. That is true for the original Word, which seems to no longer be in existence. What we do have are copies made from copies made from copies. The existing ancient copies are nearly identical for the Torah, the first five books of the Bible. But for the rest of the Old Covenant, there is some variance between these ancient manuscripts. And then in the New (Renewed) Covenant, there is a wide disparity between the ancient manuscripts used as their source.

Beyond that, it is easy to miss the mark when translating from one language to another. This is because languages differ in sentence structure, word meanings, cultural understanding, and so on. So do we throw away our Bibles and give up? No! No! No! But we also do not give up searching out what the original written Word said.

As "truth-seekers," we do not feel threatened by new facts that may alter our current understanding. Instead, we embrace the truth, and thank Yah (God), that we are in the age where the hidden things in the Word are being revealed. Truths are emerging to be understood correctly. As we are hungry for truth, His Spirit leads us into more truth. We are now more rapidly identifying translation inaccuracies in order to expose the truth.

Mistranslation: The name "Jesus". Yes, "Jesus" is not what the angel said to name Him!

We will see what His name really is, and explore where the misnomer "Jesus" came from in just a simple, "big-picture" overview for now. First however, let's relax and keep the perspective that if we get His name correctly, and miss having a meaningful relationship with Him, then we've missed the point. Knowing one's correct name (or preferred "nickname"), is important, but we also got our parents' name wrong (mommy, dad, etc.), when we were young too. Love brings balance for sure. Yes, this is a ***deliberate*** one-word mistranslation from a series of errors. [1] The misnomer error is also repeated consistently throughout the New Covenant. "Jesus" is a ***translation***, not a ***transliteration***. All proper nouns, such as people & places are to be transliterated. [2]

1. The name "Jesus" is at least 3-steps removed from His original Hebrew name. We'll explain why later.

2. Proper names (such as names of people & places), are *NOT* supposed to be translated; instead they are to be transliterated. When a word is transliterated, the letters of the new language are used that best represent the sounds of the letters in the original language. The goal is to have it sound the same in both languages. This basic principle was consistently violated in nearly all English translations.

What is His name in the original language?

Most Bible scholars now acknowledge that the original New (Renewed) Covenant was first written in Hebrew/Aramaic. [3] This is made evident in Greek translations whenever the Greek translators did not correctly grasp the Hebrew sentence structure and Hebrew colloquisms. Also, we now have over two dozen ancient copies of the Gospel of Matthew in Hebrew. [4] Early church fathers confirm that Matthew first wrote his gospel in Hebrew. In addition there have been parts of other New (Renewed) Covenant books found in ancient Hebrew in the Vatican vaults. [5]

In **Matthew 1:21** Joseph was told by an angel what to name Mary's son. In verse 25 the son is born, and Joseph names the boy the name that he was instructed to give. In the Hebrew Matthew copy we have this name with the vowel pointings as יֵשׁוּעַ which could be transliterated a couple different ways. [6] But first, let's realize that this Hebrew name is a variant (abbreviated form) of the Hebrew word יְהוֹשֻׁעַ transliterated as "Yahushua." [7] This info lends the pronunciation of Jesus' name to therefore sound like "Yahshua," the transliteration of my choice. Both names mean, "Yahovah saves."

There is further confirmation to use this choice. As detailed in our previous mistranslation study, God's name is "Yahovah," and His "nickname" is "Yah." The Son ascended to be with the Father as one. When we "Praise Yah," we are praising both the Father & the Son!

Translations that use the transliterated Hebrew names for people reveal that many, many people were named with "Yaho..." as the first part of their name or "...yahu" (and "...yah"), as the last part of their name. (See Johnson's book in footnote 7 for examples on pages 139 & 151.) The names all have meanings. (Even today, Benjamin Netanyahu means "gift of God.") This further locks in the idea that the best transliterations are "Yahshua" for Jesus, "Yahovah" for the Father & "Yah" for both, (**Deuteronomy 6:4**).

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3. The Hebrew language was first an alphabet of pictographs. When Israel went to Babylon they adopted the block Aramaic letters in place of their picture-symbol letters. About 70% of the words in both languages that are spelled the same also have the same meanings.

4. See Nehemiah Gordon's book, "The Naming of Jesus in Hebrew Matthew," page 5.

5. Nehemiah Gordon, and Michael Rood have the details for these finds.

6. The issue is the first vowel pointing, the "Teres", as it can be pronounced a bit differently (depending upon cultural Hebrew origin of the people), when not recognizing the fuller proper name that it is associated with. Without this understanding, the main variants would thus be "Yayshua," or "Yashua," "Yeshua," "Yahshua."

7. Commonly translated at "Joshua," who is called "Yehshua" in Nehemiah 8:17 in translations that transliterate the Hebrew names. See Keith Johnson's, "His Hallowed Name Revealed Again," page 219, and Nehemiah Gordon's, "The Naming of Jesus in Hebrew Matthew," page 6.

"Joshua" (more properly transliterated as "Yahoshua"), means "Yahovah saves." Joshua's name was "Hoshea/Hosea/Oshea" before Moses changed it to "Yahoshua". [8] "Hoshea" means "He saves." [9] "Yahoshua", "Yahushua" & their abbreviated form of "Yahshua," all mean "Yahovah saves." [10] This explains why Moses renamed him "Yahushua". Moses knew that it would be Yahovah who would lead the way through Hoshea.

So why do we have "Jesus" used in translations?

"Jesus" is a transliteration of the Greek name, "Iesous", which is a <u>translation</u> of the Hebrew word "Yeshu," a shortened form of "Yehshua." It is never seen in Hebrew or in Aramaic. Furthermore, there was no "J" in Hebrew, Aramaic or Greek,[11]. The first editions of the King James Version used "Iesus", until 1634 by which time the letter "J" was widely accepted as a new letter in the English alphabet. The word, "Jesus" was never used before 1559.[12] "Iesous" was spelled as "Iesus" in Latin, which also did not have the letter "J." [13] Some note that "Iesus" is very similar to "Ieso," the Greek goddess of healing. Todd Bennett explores that more in depth for those who are interested. [14]

Of all the people that I know who use the Hebrew/Aramaic name for Jesus, (whatever that is according to their current understanding), none are offended by the use of the name, "Jesus," and neither are we. We all are coming into more light as we come into more maturity. Love of Yah & each other is our foundation & motive! Hopefully you will find this overview helpful as Yahshua is spoken more & more.

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8. From Numbers 13:16. Meanings explained in "His Hallowed Name Revealed Again," p. 199

9. From Keith Johnson's "His Hallowed Name Revealed Again," page 199.

10. From Nehemiah & Johnson's book, "A Prayer to Our Father," page 107.

11. From Keith Johnson's "His Hallowed Name Revealed Again," page 120.

12. From Todd Bennett's "Names," page 71.

13. From Todd Bennett's "Names," page 70.

14. Also from "Names," page 71, the early part of an entire chapter on the name "Jesus."