

Today's Sermons

Morning: Always Abounding in the Work of the Lord

Evening: John: The Gospel of Belief

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FOR THE RECORD

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Sunday Bible Study | 37 |
| Sunday AM Worship | 53 |
| Sunday PM Worship | n/a |
| Wed. Bible Study | 32 |
| Offering | \$1939 |

Jesus said;
If you love me,
~~LIKE~~
~~SHARE~~
~~TYPE YES~~
~~TYPE AMEN~~
OBEY MY
COMMANDMENTS



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130 Robert Street
West Jefferson NC 28694

Phone: (336) 846-5615 | Email: info@wjchurchofchrist.org

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Minister:

Tim Canup

tim@wjchurchofchrist.org

Times of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study:... 10:00am

AM Worship:...11:00am

PM Worship:...6:00pm

2nd Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday

Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program

Sunday:.....7:30am

"Back to the Bible"

AM 580 WSKS

93.5 FM

**We Extend A
Warm & Cordial**

**Welcome
To All Our
Visitors!**

What About the Names of God?

Wayne Jackson

"In the Old Testament, sometimes one of the titles for God is set in type with all capitals, 'LORD.' At other times, there are both the upper and lower case, 'Lord.' Why does this difference exist?"

This type-setting format is found in most of the English translations that have been produced over the past several centuries. The notable exception is the American Standard Version (1901), which uses the term "Jehovah," rather than "LORD."

In these common versions, the translators are attempting to provide a clue to the English reader that different Hebrew words were found in the original text. "LORD" reflects the original term *yhwh* (found 6,823 times), while "Lord" is the English rendition of the Hebrew, *adonai* (used some 300 times).

As suggested above, one of the names for God, as conveyed in Hebrew, was *yhwh* (four consonants). Because the Jews considered this title to be very sacred, they did not pronounce it. Eventually, the scribes borrowed vowels from the name "Lord" (*adonai*) – based upon a "point" system which reflected the way the language was spoken. Vowels were thus inserted into the sacred, four-letter name (called the tetragrammaton – "four letters"). This eventually evolved into the hybrid word "Jehovah" – about the beginning of the 12 century A.D.

Continued Inside

The Hebrew term *yhwh* is believed to derive from the root, *hwy*, meaning “to be.” The name suggests that God simply “is,” i.e., he possesses an underived existence; he is the eternal “I AM” (cf. Ex. 3:14 – especially see the footnote in the ASV; cf. also Jn. 8:58).

Also, this name became a special designation which emphasized God’s relationship to the nation of Israel. It dramatically depicts one of the prime attributes of the Creator, his eternal existence. In addition, it stresses his “enduring presence” with Israel in their redemptive history.

The other term, “Lord” (with the final three letters in lower case), as indicated earlier, is from *adonai*. This word literally means “my Lord,” and it derives from a root which suggests “sovereign, strength, power.” It is a word particularly emphasizing the authority of the Deity. It expresses the relationship of the Creator to his creatures, and the responsibility they have to the One who made them and who owns them (cf. Rom. 9:21).

Some object to the use of “Jehovah” because it is an artificially constructed word, and thus does not reflect the original precisely. But neither does “LORD” accurately represent the original term. The best approximation of *yhwh* would be *yahweh*. But since that term is mostly alien to the vocabulary and understanding of the average person today, some prefer to maintain at least some distinction between *yhwh* and *adonai*. They therefore retain the American Standard Version’s “Jehovah.”

Incidentally, the use of varying names for God in the Old Testament does not hint of different authors, as commonly claimed by radical, destructive critics. See our “Feature” article, “Destructive Criticism and the Old Testament”.

A New Creature

Tim Canup

At one point or another, we all have made a mistake in a particular situation and have desired to have a fresh start; to have the proverbial slate wiped clean. We would do almost anything to have such. Paul wrote, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new” (II Cor 5:17).

The greatest mistake made in man’s life is sin (Isaiah 59:1-2; James 1:13-15). We can have a fresh start spiritually in this life by being “in Christ.” If by being in Christ gives us this new life, then we must ask, “How can I get into Christ?” In Galatians 3:27, Paul wrote, “For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” This instruction comes from God, not man (Gal 1:11-12).

Obedience to the command to be baptized is what removes the stain of sin. Baptism “doth now also save us” (I Pet 3:21). Christ “washed us from our sins in His own blood” (Rev 1:5). It is in the obedience to the command to be baptized that we contact that blood (Rom 6:3-4) not in the water itself (Col 2:12).

Of all the great spiritual blessings mentioned by Paul that we have “in Christ” (Eph 1:3) is the forgiveness of our sins (Eph 1:7). Not only do we have the forgiveness of our past sins when we are baptized, but we can continue to have forgiveness. John wrote that “if we walk in the light as He is in the light...the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses [keeps on cleansing] us from all sin” (I John 1:7). How is this possible? John went on to answer this: “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (I John 1:9). When we have our sins forgiven, we have them completely wiped away (Heb 8:12; 10:17).

Jesus Christ so love us, He purchase us with His own blood (Acts 20:28; I Cor 6:20). Paul said that “...Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word” (Eph 5:25-26). What a great price paid for us to be a new creature!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sept 4 – Men’s Business Meeting & Ladies’ Class
- **Directory Update:**
 - Doss:** Herman (3\24) & Betty (4\15) - Anniversary: 6\4
129 Freds Drive; Boone, NC 28607
(828) 406-5209 or (843) 267-2712 (cell)
hermdoss@gmail.com
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell

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*“Go to now, ye that say, Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain:  
<sup>14</sup> Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. <sup>15</sup> For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.” (James 4:13-15).*