



Outline – Friday Bible Study, March 02, 2018

Sermon Title: “The Remedy for Heresy is Clarity”

The Problem:

Popular false teachings suggest that you are either not saved, not sanctified, or not honoring God if you are not strictly pronouncing the Hebrew name for Jesus (Yeshua/Yehoshua).

Considering the Issue:

How many names does God have in the OT? In the NT?

How many times does the name Yeshua occur in the Hebrew OT? As a divine name? _____

How many times does the name Iēsous occurs in the Greek NT? As a divine name? _____

I. On the deity of Christ (*Acts 2:36*)

A. Searching for "G-o-d":

1. "L - o - r - d" = "G - o - d."

2. Should we take a Historical-Critical Scholar's perspective here?

II. The Early Christians and the Sacred Name (“*Nomina Sacra*”)

There were four names or titles commonly recorded as *nomina sacra* in the NT:

THEOS

KURIOS

CHRISTOS

IĒSOUS

A. How many times is Jesus (IĒSOUS) called Lord (KURIOS)? _____

B. How many times is Jesus (IĒSOUS) called God (THEOS)? _____
(*Matt 1:23; John 1:1; John 20:28; Titus 2:13; 2 Pet 1:1; Heb 1:8; 1 John 5:20*)

C. If Jesus is Thomas' “Lord” (KURIOS) and his “God” (THEOS),
Why do the NT writers usually choose to call him *Lord*? (1 Cor 8:6)

D. Many other proofs exist—not using 2018 American “logic,” but God's logic:
“*Owner / Creator / Glory / Image / Upholder / Redeemer / Ruler (Enthroned)*”

E. Was the name Yeshua or the name Iēsous given the *nomina sacra* in the Manuscripts?
(*Remember: How many times does the name Yeshua occur in the New Testament?*)

“The Remedy for Heresy is Clarity”

That the earliest Christian Manuscripts used the sacred name for Jesus shows us:

1. Christians did not need the name Yeshua as a magic password to access God.
2. Christians revered the name Iēsous as most exalted, transcendent and holy.
(As holy as *Kurios*, as holy as *Theos*, as holy as any name for God. Even...)
3. Christians knew that Jesus was Yahweh and they honored him as Yahweh.
 - a. *Jewish tradition recognized “YHWH visible” and “YHWH invisible.”*
 - b. *Using the sacred name follows the OT manuscripts names for YHWH.*
4. *“If you, who live ethnically, not Jewishly, compel others to live Jewishly...”*
 - a. The issue of pronunciation: “Yehoshua” (Gal 2:14)

III. Honoring the Name God Gave Him (Matt 1:21)

- A. Who decided the Messiah's name?
- B. What name did the Father choose for the Son? (Matt 1:21)
 1. Do we think that God made a mistake? (Jesus: 900x plus / Yehoshua: 0x)
 2. We would honor the name Jesus *and* Yehoshua as holy.
Because God designed for his Son to be worshiped in every language.
 3. Must we become linguistically Jewish to be accepted with God?
- C. The Greek name for Jesus evidences God's desire to expand his kingdom to the world.
- D. “We must know God and know his providence.”
 1. Alexander conquered the known world... paved over to trade merchandise.
 2. Alexander conquered the culture... paved over to trade information.
 3. Due to Hellenization (dominance and mixture of Greek culture),
Jewish citizens spoke more Greek, and spoke Aramaic/Hebrew less and less.
 - a. *This is the reason for the Greek Old Testament (Septuagint)*
 - b. *God promised Greece would conquer—he designed it.* (Dan 7–8)
 - c. *The goal was always for a Jewish and Gentile church.* (Rev 5:9)

IV. Is “Jesus” enough for you? (Iēsous)

- A. Only YHWH could have all authority and power to forgive your sins. (John 8:24)
- B. We must have a God-man mediator to forgive sins, or they are not forgiven. (Matt 9)
- C. We worship the Lamb of God who is God—and his name? (Rev 1:1; Rev Ch. 4–5)
- D. Is Jesus enough for you? Is his name enough for you? Is the Bible enough for you?