

Just How **OLB** Is The Name, Jehovah?

Dateline January 2004: Reviewing Jehovah Witnesses' *New Theology* about the Name “יה (Yah)” in *Awake magazine!*

Nearly everyone has had a visit with a Jehovah Witness at one time or another. Their main focus is introducing the public to the name, Jehovah, then, the rest of their doctrines.

Our belief is that YAHWEH is the true name of the Creator, with history and the Bible taking precedence for the record of longevity. Let truth prevail!

Old Bibles and Records

The original Authorized 1611 King James Version spelled the names of the Father and the Son with an “I” utilizing the sound “I or Y” as in YAH; Father, YAHweh, and Son, YAHushua.

Remember, the vocalization of “Yah-u-hey” written “Yahweh” was happening for 1,600 years before Jehovah and Jesus were even heard of! Jehovah and Jesus are “*Johnny come lately*” names. The name Yahweh (יהוה) was in existence for 5,600 years before *men changed His name to Jehovah*.

Notice the spelling of the name Yahweh in the **1599 Geneva Bible** (GNV), using the “I” for the Y sound. (**Quotes verbatim**)

GNV **Psalm 83:18**, “That they may knowe that thou, which art called **Iehouah**, art alone, euen the most High ouer all the earth.”

Next notice that Jacob is Iaakob, which is **Strong’s # 3290**

יַעֲקֹב Ya‘aqob {yah-ak-obe’}.

GNV **Exodus 6:3**, “And I appeared vnto Abraham, to Izhak, and to **Iaakob** by the Name of Almighty God: but by my Name Iehouah was I not knowen vnto the.”

Please notice the transformations *within the English Language* from the 16th century to the 19th century; —

evolution if you will to the so-called name Lord, The LORD, and other titles. These names are **all** man-made substitutes for the Tetragrammaton (יהוה) YHWH.

GNV (1599) **Exodus 15:3**, “The Lord [יהוה] is a man of warre, his Name is **Iehouah**.”

KJV (1769) **Exodus 15:3**, “The LORD [יהוה] is a man of war: the LORD is his name.”

Hebrew transliterated Bible

First notice that **YAHWEH** [יהוה] “yhw” is ((bracketed)) as *adonay*, this is still maintained today, in keeping with Jewish tradition by disguising the Sacred Name.

(man) אֲדֹנָי (yhw) יהוה WTT **Exodus 15:3** ←read

(Name) מִלְחָמָה (yhw) יהוה (battle, war) .

BHT **Exodus 15:3** yhw (ʔādōnāy) ʔiš milhāmāh yhw(ʔādōnāy) šəmō

BHT **Exodus 20:2** ʔānōkî yhw (ʔādōnāy) ʔēlōheýkā ʔāšer hôṣēʔtíkā mēʔereš..

The Dutch 1637 (with Strong’s codes) Bible (יהוה) Strong’s # **03068** = **Yahweh**)

SVV **Exodus 15:3**, “De **HEERE** <03068> is een krijgsman <0376> <04421>; **HEERE** <03068> is Zijn Naam <08034>!”

KJV **Exodus 15:3** The LORD <03068> is a man <0376> of war <04421>: the LORD <03068> is his name <08034>.

I do not speak Dutch, but the Name is not Jehovah and the tradition of translating the Divine Name YAHWEH instead of transliterating his name was well and strong then also.

Now notice the names Moses and Joshua, son of Nun, are **transliterated, not translated**; and we can recognize them in the Dutch language.

^{SVV} **Joshua 1:1**, “Het geschiedde <01961> (08804) nu, na <0310> den dood <04194> van Mozes <04872>, den knecht <05650> des **HEEREN <03068>**, dat de **HEERE <03068>** tot <0413> **Jozua <03091>**, den zoon <01121> van Nun <05126>, den dienaar <08334> (08764) van **Mozes <04872>**, sprak <0559> (08799), zeggende <0559> (08800):”

^{KJV} **Joshua 1:1**, “Now after <0310> the death <04194> of Moses <04872> the servant <05650> **YAHWEH <03068>** it came to pass, that **YAHWEH <03068>** spake <0559> (08799) unto **Joshua <03091>** the son <01121> of Nun <05126>, **Moses’ <04872>** minister <08334> (08764), saying <0559> (08800),”

I do not have Tyndale’s 1554 *Old Testament*, but notice “Ieus” is from the Greek “<2424> Ἰησοῦς *Iesous*” and as Greek has no “J” sound it uses the “I” for a YE sound. The Jehovah Witnesses (and Christians) are just as wrong for proclaiming “Jesus” for our Savior’s name as they are for substituting Jehovah for the Heavenly Father’s name.

^{TNT-1554} **Matthew 1:21**, “She shall brynge forthe a sonne and thou shalt call his name **Iesus**. For he shall save his peple from their synnes.”

Names are Transliterated, not Translated: Proof? The Bible!

(^{S17}) Swedish 1917 (^{KJV}) Kings James Version (^{MRD}) Aramaic 1852 Version

^{KJV} **Acts 26:10** Which thing I also did in **Jerusalem**:

^{S17} **Acts 26:10** så gjorde jag ock i **Jerusalem**.

^{KJV} **Acts 26:12** Whereupon as I went to **Damascus**

^{S17} **Acts 26:12** När jag nu i detta ärende var på väg till **Damaskus**

^{KJV} **Luke 23:6** When **Pilate** heard of Galilee, he asked whether the man were a **Galilaean**.

^{S17} **Luke 23:6** När **Pilatus** hörde detta, frågade han om mannen var från **Galileen**.

^{KJV} **Luke 23:7** And as soon as he knew that he belonged unto **Herod’s** jurisdiction,

^{S17} **Luke 23:7** Och då han fick veta att han var från det land som lydde under **Herodes’**

^{MRD} **Luke 24:18** And one of them, whose name was **Cleopas**, .

^{S17} **Luke 24:18** Och den ene, som hette **Kleopas**,

Generally speaking, most names carry their original sound from language to language, satan, however, has caused mankind to desecrate *the Only Name for salvation* and most have bought into that lie.

How is the letter “J”?

Here’s what *The World Book Encyclopedia* 1974 edition has to say concerning the letter “**J**” (most other encyclopedias are similar), “Jj is the tenth letter of our alphabet, **and was the last to be added**. It developed from the letter *I*, which was the tenth letter in the alphabet used by the Semites, who once lived in Syria and Palestine. They probably adapted an Egyptian *hieroglyphic*, or picture symbol, for *hand* to represent the letter, but the resemblance is slight. The ancient Greeks used the letter and passed it on to the Romans. In the late Middle Ages, when two or more *i*’s were written together, scribes often added a long tail to the last one. Later, the tail was used to indicate an initial *I*. During the 1600’s an *i* at the beginning of a word was written with a tail. The *j* developed from these forms and became a symbol for the consonant *j*, as in *joy*.”

Theological Wordbook Old Testament

(*emphasis ours*)

Yahweh -- Jehovah

“..In the post-biblical period, reverence for the ineffable name “Yahweh” caused it to be supplanted in synagogue reading (but not in writing) with the noun ’ādōnāy, “my master,” or Lord. Next, when medieval Jewish scholars began to insert vowels to accompany the consonantal OT text, they added to YHWH the Masoretic vowel points for ’ādōnāy ; and the actual writing became an impossible YăHōWāH, the ASV “**Jehovah**.”...”

Fausset Bible Dictionary #1911 **Jehovah; Yahweh**, “1911.01 Jahaveh or Yahaveh is probably the correct form (the vowel pointing in **Jehovah** is derived from **A-d-o-n-ay**) from the substantive verb *haawah* (found only six times in the Bible; obsolete in Moses’ time; retained in Chaldee and Syriac from a time anterior to the division of the Semitic languages), for the more modern *haayah* (HSN-1961), to be; a proof of the great antiquity of the name: “I

AM THAT I AM” is the key of the name (Exo. 3:14), expressing unchanging Being. The name was old and known long before; it appears compounded in Jo-chebed and Moriah, and simply in Gen. 2 and afterward. But its significance in relation to God’s people was new, and now first becoming experimentally known.”

The *ISBE Bible Dictionary* defines **Jehovah** correctly as “*Yahweh*,” notice the following 3 examples:

“4913 Jehovah-Jireh

<je-ho’-va-ji’-re> (Heb: *yahweh yir’-eh*, ‘Yahweh sees’): The name given by Abraham to the place where he had sacrificed a ram provided by God, instead of his son Isaac (Gen 22:14).

4914 Jehovah-Nissi

<je-ho’-va nis’-i> (Heb: *yahweh nicci*, ‘Yahweh is my banner’): So Moses named the altar which he reared to signalize the defeat of the Amalekites by Israel under Joshua, at Rephidim (Ex 17:15).

4916 Jehovah-Shalom

<je-ho’-va sha’-lom> (Heb: *yahweh shalom*, ‘Yahweh is peace’): This was the name given by Gideon to the altar he built at Ophra, in allusion to the word spoken to him by the Lord, “Peace be unto thee” (Jdg 6:24). It is equivalent to ‘Yahweh is well disposed.’”

Brown Driver Briggs 2315 יהוה (page 219),

“The pronunciation *Jehovah* was unknown until 1520, when it was introduced by Galatinus; but it was contested by Le Mercier, J. Drusius, and L. Capellus, as against grammatical and historical propriety (cf. Bö:§ 88). The traditional Ἰαβέ of Theodoret and Epiphanius, the יהוה, יהוה of compound n.pr. and the contracted form יהו all favour

יהוה [YHWH]”

What does (Je)-HOVAH mean?

Strong’s # 1943 הוּוָה hovah {ho-vaw’}

“**Meaning:** 1) ruin, disaster

Origin: another form for 01942; **TWOT - 483c**; n f..”

TWOT “(483c) הוּוָה (hōwâ) disaster.

hōwâ. Disaster. KJV, ASV, “Mischief,” in its archaic sense of calamity. J.B.P. . .

הוּוָה noun common feminine singular absolute”

Brown Driver & Briggs, “2314 הוּוָה (page 217) (Strong 1943)

“תבואה n.f. ruin, disaster (cf. sub הוּוָה) Ez 7:26 הוּוָה על הוּוָה *disaster shall come upon disaster*, Is 47:11 ותפל עליה הוּוָה *disaster shall fall upon thee* (|| (שאה, רעה)...”

The evidence of historical meanings from the original languages shows that coupling the poetic form (יהוה) by *men*, brings forth a god of disaster and ruin; no matter what man’s intentions were. This is adding to the words of Scripture (Deut. 4:2).

What about Lord and God?

Lord and God are in most Bibles, but The LORD is not a *name*. God however is taught enigmatically as both a title and a name, confusing to say the least. God i.e. Elohim, is not a representation of our creator’s *Name*, but is merely a title meaning “mighty one.” In most Bible Prefixes, they tell the readers that “God, Lord and The LORD” are representations of the Name or titles.

Sadly the translators chose to use a *title*, “The Lord,” to represent the Creator’s NAME and a *name* “god” as a descriptive title. However, the Scriptures do warn us about *re-naming* our Creator.

^{KJV} **Exodus 23:13**, “And in all *things* that I have said unto you be circumspect: and **make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth.**”

God is a title represented by the Hebrew word, Elohim, meaning Mighty One(s) when in reference to the Heavenly Father: and **god** is a title represented by the Hebrew word, elohim, when meaning a lesser mighty one(s).

The LORD (as rendered in most English Bibles) is a substitution for the Divine Name **YAHWEH** “יהוה.” The Hebrew word, Adonay, is also translated Lord and means master or lord “as in landlord.” When these words appear together in the Bible they are usually rendered Lord God or Almighty God, which adds to the confusion to say the least.

A brief summary of *The Savior's Name*

Just as Jehovah is *not* the name of our Creator, Jesus is not the name for the Son of the most high, Yahweh. The Name of the Father, as Scripture states, is incorporated in the Son's Name.

The Greek recognizes that the original name is incorporated in the Son's Name.

Please notice this in the following passage and in the definition of the name, Yahushua, (Greek "Ἰησοῦ").

^{NAU} **Philippians 2:9-11**, "For this reason also, [Elohim] highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,¹⁰ so that at the name of [Yahushua] (Ἰησοῦ) **EVERY KNEE WILL BOW**, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that [Yahushua Messiah] is [Master] to the glory of [Elohim] the Father.

Friberg, "Ἰησοῦς, οὐ, ὁ (1) *Joshua*, masculine proper noun meaning *Lord (Yahweh) saves*, designating Moses' successor (AC 7.45; HE 4.8); (2) *Joshua* or *Jesus*, a common name among Jews"

Thayer, "Ἰησοῦς, Ἰησοῦ, dative Ἰησοῦ, accusative Ἰησοῦν, vocative Ἰησοῦ (Winer's Grammar, sec. 10, 1), ὁ, *Jesus* (יהוֹשֻׁעַ and according to a later form, ישׁוּעַ, Syriac [?], i. e. whose *help is Jehovah*"

Theological Word Study Old Testament = TWOT

TWOT, "יהוֹשֻׁעַ noun proper no gender no number no state

y^ohōshûā-yēshûā' designates ten Hebrew leaders (ISBE, III, pp. 1622, 1743) from Moses' successor Joshua (KJV, Jehoshua in Num 13:16; 1Chr 7:27) to the post-exilic high priest Jeshua (Ezra 3:2; Neh 12:10). The former's name was changed from the Hiphil infinitive, Hoshea, "salvation," to Joshua, with its deeper spiritual connotation of "Yahweh (is) salvation" (Num 13:8, 16). Both men are called "Jesus" in Greek (Acts 7:45; 1Esd 5:48), i.e., yeshûā' is our Lord's Hebrew name, "for he will save his people from their sins" (Mt 1:21). This [Aramaic yeshûā'] may be a shortened form with the divine element omitted, meaning "he will save.".."

Note: According to the *Theological Word Study Old Testament* (as shown below), the name Yahushua is a com-

bination name יהו or יה = Yahweh; יִשׁוּעַ = salvation; יהוֹשֻׁעַ and יהוֹשֻׁעַ = Yahushua. Please note the following definition:

TWOT [Yahushua] "יהוֹשֻׁעַ noun proper absolute

(484a) יהוה (yhwh) **Yahweh.**

(484b) יהי (yāh) **Yahweh.**

0929.0 יִשׁוּעַ (yāsha') **be saved, be delivered**

(Niphal); **save, deliver, give victory, help; be safe; take vengeance, preserve (Hiphil);** ASV, "rescue" "defend cause": RSV, substantive "savior." (ASV and RSV similar, but interchange synonyms.)

(929a) יִשׁוּעַ (yesha') **salvation, deliverance.** (929b)

ישועה (y^oshû'â) **salvation."**

Strong's 3091, "יהוֹשֻׁעַ Yehowshuwa` {yeh-ho-shoo'-ah} or יהוֹשֻׁעַ Yehowshu`a {yeh-ho-shoo'-ah}

Meaning: Joshua or Jehoshua = "Jehovah is salvation"

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The Hebrew New Testament, as we have it, is translated into Hebrew from both the Greek New Testament and the Aramaic New Testament. There is no original Hebrew New Testament!

When translating the Greek New Testament to the Hebrew & Aramaic New Testament "Ἰησοῦ" was translated to "יהוֹשֻׁעַ" in Acts 7:45 and Hebrews 4:8. This is more evidence that the name, Yahushua, is more than likely the original.

This **most important Name** should be spoken in reverence and not taken lightly, *especially, since it is a privilege* to teach His name and to baptize in the Sacred Name. Yahweh/Yahushua, [equaling יהוה / יהוֹשֻׁעַ explained above], as shown in the **Aramaic PESHITTA TEXT**, (the oldest dated manuscript in the world) were used by believers until the 16th century. Scripture tells us (Joel 2:31-34; Acts 4:12 to name a few), that there is no other name under heaven that saves mankind, and the coming Kingdom of Elohim proclaims no name change.

^{KJV} **Zephaniah 3:9** For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of **YAHWEH**, to serve him with one consent.

Summary

Some *new* amazing *facts* from the Jehovah Witnesses?

In the January 2004, edition of “AWAKE!,” a magazine published by the Jehovah Witnesses, they had a ten page article on, “Do You Know God by Name?” Their fruit was *fruitless*. For example, they write, “Jah, or Yah, an abbreviation for God’s personal name, is pronounced Kah. Hallelujah is pronounced Hallelukah. Some even avoid writing out the term “God,” substituting a dash for one or more letters.”

Has *anybody* ever heard of “Hallelukah?” Yah in Hebrew is (יה) “Yod-Heh.” This form is found 50 times in the Hebrew Scriptures. The word that the Jehovah Witnesses say *it really should be*, “Kah,” is (כ) “Yod-Kaph” in the Hebrew. **HOWEVER, (כ) ISN’T IN THE BIBLE; it is like JEHOVAH, A FABRICATION.** Throughout the entire article they stress the importance of the Name, however, their resources only go back to the 16th century for proof of Jehovah.

Cleverly, they recite the Scriptures and use Jehovah, YHWH and point to the Tetragrammaton; but rarely do they be truthful and write “YAHWEH”. They do tell about the King James Version and others, then say, “The above are just three of many Bible translations published over the past centuries that omit or downplay the name of God. It is no wonder that the vast majority of professed Christians today hesitate to use the divine name or do not know it at all.”

The problem with their commentary is that the Jehovah Witnesses are Chief to “omit or downplay the name of [YAHWEH];” the rightful and true name. In previous literature that the Jehovah Witnesses produced, “The Divine Name That Will Endure Forever,” they **admit** that the name Yahweh is more correct but confess, “we retain the name Jehovah because of peoples familiarity with it.”

Isn’t “*God*” more popular than Jehovah? Why don’t they promote it? **Why not promote the Words of Yahweh?**

With scholarship such as just quoted, it’s no wonder that the Christians mark the Jehovah Witnesses as a cult. They simply manufacture and make up fairy tales to prove their point. Men tampering with the original Name, Yahweh (יהוה), “I AM (יהי) WHO (אשר) I AM (יהי);” *altered it to become the god of ruin, disaster & mischief! “Je-Hovah.”*

Jehovah is a recent invention of men only being slightly more than 450 years old. Sure, as in many cases, the original intent was probably good; it was an attempt to bring light to our Creator’s name. However, some translators in medieval times did know that the Name was vowel pointed to say “*Adonay*.” Also, in those days, Elohim was thought to be the name and that’s how Mohammad, who invented Islam, came to the conclusion that the name of the Heavenly Father was “*ALLAH*.” He simply used the vowel points of Adonay on Elohim and came up with Allah.

Mistakes were made, but typically, prideful men choose to justify errors instead of correcting them to agree with the Word of Yahweh!

^{KJV} **Daniel 12:4**, “But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, *even* to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.”

Knowledge shall be increased, includes Scriptural knowledge, but yet with this knowledge, how many who claim to follow the Bible still eat unclean foods? How many justify worshiping on the first day of the week? How many justify using *any name*? Within the Sabbath keeping community many **use the same arguments** against the Sacred Name, Yahweh, and His Son, Yahushua, that *they say* Christianity uses to oppose the Sabbath.

We all must look at the Word of Yahweh for guidance, not traditions.

It is YAHWEH that will be in charge of the Kingdom of Elohim. Jehovah, the elohim of ruin, is defined by the lexicons and dictionaries as fictitious. We have the Scriptures which define the Mighty One by the original words and we have a language of recent invention attempting to prove an imposter; which evidence will you choose to believe?

We all have choices to make. Our prayer is that we not be like our forefathers who wouldn’t change. Once upon a time, those forefathers died out in the wilderness and they had Almighty Yahweh *Himself* as their instructor and Moses to guide them. Almighty Yahweh is looking for Leaders who will follow *HIS instructions*. They are the leadership that He will trust to guide the Nations in His coming Kingdom; *will You be one of them?*