**R982 Rumination for Nov. 19, 2023 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **A Name above every other Name!** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *God also hath highly exalted* ***H****im, and given Him a* ***name*** *which is above every* ***name****:* Phi. 2:9

The **T**hots:

Intro.: The **C**oncept of a Name.

1. **The Connotation of “Name”:** **Matt. 1:21**
2. The **G**reek *onoma* is the root of the fascinating English word onomatopoeia, the naming of a thing or action by using a sound associated with it, such as "buzz" or "hiss." To the superstitious ancient Greeks, to know someone's name was to have power over them. In later Greek thought, especially among the Stoics, names were linked to the character or nature of the object. This led to the idea that the higher a god stood, the more names he had. A Word for the Day: Key Words from the New Testament.
3. The **G**reek *Iēsous* is of Hebrew origin, *Yehowshuwa*` Strong

*yeh-ho-shoo'-ah* is from *Yehovah* and *yasha*` = Jehovah-saved. Strong

1. As **G**iven by the angel it means: Matt. 1:21

*…thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins*

1. His **G**od-related Name is *Emmanuel* which means *God with us.* Matt. 1:23

*Behold, a virgin shall be with Child, and shall bring forth a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.*

1. Its **D**enotation: Emmanuel means *God with us.* Mt. 1:23b
2. Its **D**edication: a **P**rophecy from **P**rophet Isaiah: Cf. Isa. 7:14

*Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive,*

*and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*

1. Its **D**escription: it was never used by Christ in His ministry. Mk. 8:27-29

*Jesus…asked His disciples, saying unto them, Whom do men say that I am?*

*And they answered, John the Baptist: but some say, Elias; and others, One of the prophets.*

*And He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?*

*And Peter answereth and saith unto Him, Thou art the Christ.*

1. Emmanuel **D**enotes the **C**haracter of **C**hrist – *God with us*. Thus, Cf. Jn. 1:14
2. *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory,*

*the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

1. *For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.* Col. 2:9
2. *God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself…* II Cor. 5:19
3. **Consider also the Other Names of Jesus:** **Isa. 9:6**

*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

1. **Compare the Change of Names of some to suit their Character:**
2. Abram to Abraham Gen. 17:5

*Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham;*

*for a father of many nations have I made thee.*

1. Jacob to Israel Gen. 32:28

*And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel:*

*for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.*

1. Saul to Paul Acts 13:9

*Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him.*

1. **The Coming together in His Name:**
2. Jesus **C**hrist **C**ommissioned His **D**isciples to go out in His **D**ivine Name. Matt. 28:19

*Go ye… and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father…the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

1. The Believing Saints are to **C**ongregate together in His Name: Mt. 18:20

*For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them.*

1. The **C**hurch ***C***ontinuing *together steadfastly*… Acts 2:42

*…in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

1. The **A**ssembly *not forsaking the* ***A****ssembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.* Heb. 10:25
2. **S**alvation is **S**olely in His Name. Acts 4:12

*Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

1. The **S**ole **S**overeignty of His Name. Rev. 19:16

*And He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.*

1. The **E**xclusiveness and final **E**xaltation of His Name. Phil. 2:9-11

*Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name:*

*That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Fath*

*At the name of Jesus, Every knee shall bow,*

*Every tongue confess Him King of glory now;*

*’Tis the Father’s pleasure We should call Him Lord,*

*Who from the beginning Was the mighty Word.* Caroline M. Noel

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 982**

1. Among the Chinese in the land, names are important. Parents go to all extent to consult various sources when naming their new-born children. Superstitious parents consult deities, charlatans, mediums, etc for suitable names for their children. Some parents are warned that evil spirits are after their children. To detract them from taking their children away, the parents give them unfavourable names so that the spirits would not go after them. Consequently, children who have such kind of parents have to bear with their unsweetened names for their whole life span. Some examples of those names are Ah Too (pig), Chow Kow (smelly dog); Or Nya (black/dark maiden); Chow Bah (smelly lad); and many more such obnoxious names for the rest of their lives. Those who are more fortunate, they serve as nick names to be used in their daily living while they have better names which are used officially in official papers and documents.

Names are indeed very important. Thus, the various names of Jesus give us different perspectives of the multi-facet character of Christ, our Lord. The Book of Revelation alone reveals to us a few of them with each one telling us Who Jesus is and What Jesus has done for us as each name reveals the character of His Person. For instance:

Rev. 1:8, 11 – ***I am Alpha and Omega****, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.*

Rev. 1:17b, 18 – *Fear not;* ***I am the first and the last****:*  *I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen;*

Rev. 5:5 – *behold, the* ***Lion*** *of the tribe of Juda,* ***the Root of David****, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.*

Rev. 5:6 – *I beheld, and, lo…in the midst of the elders, stood* ***a Lamb*** *as it had been slain…*

Rev. 17:14 *– These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for* ***He is Lord of lords, and King of kings****:*

Rev. 21:6 *– …I am Alpha and Omega,* ***the beginning and the end.***

Rev. 22:13 *– I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end,* ***the first and the last.***

Rev. 22:16 – *I am* ***the root and the offspring of David****, and* ***the bright and morning star.***

There are many other Names of Jesus giving us a fuller insight into Who He is. Can you name some more in the other books of scripture? Find them and **REFLECT** on them.

1. There was a song which was very popular among the young people of the day at one time. The lyrics of the song ***Lily of the Valley*** by Jerry Lee Lewis went like these:

*I have found a friend in Jesus, He's everything to me****He's*** *the fairest of ten thousand to my soul****The lily of the valley and in Him alone I see****All I need to cleanse and make me fully whole.*

No doubt, the lyrics above are sourced from The Song of Solomon, 2:1*,* where the woman declares, “*I am* ***a rose of Sharon, a lily of the valleys***.” Then the man affirms in verse 2, “*Like* ***a lily among thorns*** *is my darling among the young women*.” Then in verse 3 the woman responds, “*Like* ***an apple tree*** *among the trees of the forest is my beloved among the young men.*”

It is obvious the *Lily of the Valley* refers to the Woman, and not to the man! In turn, the man is referred to as *an* *apple tree among the trees of the forest.* So scripturally and contextually can the ***rose of Sharon,*** or the ***lily of the valleys*** be applied to Jesus?

How would you then apply *“Like an apple tree among the trees of the forest is my beloved among the young men,”* to Jesus in His relationship to you even as the beloved was related to the woman as such? **REFLECT**

*A raindrop fell on a blossom gay, That grew on the apple tree;*

*I’ve hurried down on this rainy day, To help you to grow, said he.*

*Jesus wants us to help Him, too, Each in our own sweet way;*

*If we try it, we’ll surely do Something for Him each day.* E. L. Formhals,

**POINTS TO PONDER:** *An Apple a day Reminds you of Jesus every day!*