

A SERIES OF CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONAL THOUGHTS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

HIS NAME SAYS IT ALL

Luke 1:31 (The Angel Gabriel's Words to Mary continue) “. . . you are to call Him Jesus. . .”

A person's name has special meaning. In Biblical times, names were more intentionally given, often saying something about that person's character or their situation. For example, King David's name means "beloved", and he was known as the man after God's own heart. In the case of the name "Jesus," Gabriel left no doubt as to its meaning, "the one who saves." (Matthew 1:21)

God, through the Angel Gabriel took full responsibility for the name given to His Son, conceived and born through the Virgin Mary. Gabriel said to Mary, "you are to call Him Jesus." Gabriel, as he announced to Joseph that Mary was pregnant and she would give birth to a male child said to him, “. . . You are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

A Bible dictionary (The Interpreters Dictionary of the Bible) has the following regarding the name Jesus, “. . . Jesus is His personal name. The original Hebrew form was Joshua or more fully, 'Yahweh is salvation.' Or “. . . saves” which Matthew records in chapter 1:21, “for He will save His people from their sins.” The name Jesus says so much about the newborn child and God's purpose for sending Him to be born in Bethlehem.

At the time of Jesus' birth, for the Jewish audience, just hearing His name brought to mind the words of the prophet Isaiah 7:14, “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin^h will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” The name “Immanuel” means “God with us.” In today's culture, often-times instead of using the name Jesus a Christian will use the name Savior to refer to Him.

Prayer: O Holy Spirit, implant into my heart the name Jesus and all that it means. In His name. Amen

Jesus Name above all names Beautiful Savior Glorious Lord
Emmanuel God is with us Blessed Redeemer Living word
Jesus Lord God Almighty Wonderful counselor The prince of peace
Above glory Man of sorrow Man of God

(Songwriter: Naida Hearn --- This is a non-commercial use.)