

“You Shall Call His Name Joshua”
Bible Stories Sermon Series, Pt 19 – Matt. 1:18-21, Num. 20:8-12
December 23, 2018

Matt. 18:21 - She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus (Heb. “Yeshua”, i.e. Joshua)...

I. Both Jesus and Old Testament (OT) Joshua were specially named.

A. Moses purposefully gave OT Joshua his name:

Numbers 13:16 - These are the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land; but Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun, Joshua.

B. Joseph was given Christ’s name by the angel.

II. Both Jesus and OT Joshua were servants under Moses prior to exaltation.

Exodus 24:13 - So Moses arose with Joshua his servant, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.

Philippians 2:5–7 - ⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

Galatians 4:4 - But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law [of Moses]...

III. Both Jesus and OT Joshua were possessors of the Holy Spirit.

Numbers 27:18 - So the Lord said to Moses, “Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him.”

Luke 4:17–21 - ¹⁷ And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.” ²⁰ And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

IV. Both Jesus and OT Joshua brought salvation, as their name implies.

A. Under OT Joshua, Israel was saved from the wilderness and given victory over her enemies.

1. Moses didn’t bring this salvation to the people.
2. He could not even bring it for himself (Num. 20:8-12).

B. Jesus brought a far greater salvation.

1. Salvation from the guilt and power of sin.

2. Defeat of enemies like Satan and death.
3. This kind of salvation rest could not be brought by OT Joshua (Heb. 4:8) or Moses.

1 Corinthians 15:56–57 - ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the [Mosaic] law; ⁵⁷ but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

V. Christ, the Greater Joshua, brought full salvation because:

- A. His connection to the Holy Spirit was fundamentally different from OT Joshua's (Matt. 1:20; Luke 3:22; Mark 1:8; Acts 2; 1 Peter 1:11).
- B. He lived up to the full meaning of His name: "Yahweh saves":
 1. Yahweh saved *through* OT Joshua.
 2. Yahweh saved *as* Jesus, who is Immanuel (God with us).

The Divine Joshua came to bring salvation to *all* peoples, not just Israel.