

The Gospel of Paul

If you did not read the section, “The Gospel . . . Old Testament or New Testament” now would be a good time. I am in no way referring to a “Gnostic gospel.” If you are willing to let Holy Spirit be your guide, He will start you on an adventure that will last all of your days. It is written, “It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter,” Proverbs 25:2 and “. . . You have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation and have made us kings and priests to our God,” Revelation 5:9-10. Our glory is to search the scriptures for a matter than has been concealed.

Phl 2:9 NKJV - Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name,

Phl 2:10 NKJV - that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

Phl 2:11 NKJV - and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is **Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.

I’ve copied these verses from www.blueletterbible.org for my ease but also to introduce you to the power of this free online tool. It is extraordinary.

Paul is saying that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Remember that Paul is a very learned man. His resume or curriculum vitae is found in Philippians 3:4-6. Paul knew the Hebrew Scriptures (Tanakh). Is Paul stating the obvious or is he fulfilling the role of a prophet? Prophets are thought of as performing two, often separate, functions, “fore-telling or forth-telling.” “Fore-telling” is simply predicting a future event. Nahum predicted the destruction of Nineveh (Assyria).

Isa 45:15 NKJV - Truly You are God, who hide Yourself, O God of Israel, the Savior!

Isa 45:16 NKJV - They shall be ashamed And also disgraced, all of them; They shall go in confusion together, Who are makers of idols.

Isa 45:17 NKJV - But Israel shall be saved by the **LORD** with an everlasting salvation; You shall not be ashamed or disgraced Forever and ever.

Isa 45:18 NKJV - For thus says the **LORD**, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I am the **LORD**, and there is no other.

Isa 45:19 NKJV - I have not spoken in secret, In a dark place of the earth; I did not say to the seed of Jacob, 'Seek Me in vain'; I, the **LORD**, speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.

Isa 45:20 NKJV - "Assemble yourselves and come; Draw near together, You who have escaped from the nations. They have no knowledge, Who carry the wood of their carved image, And pray to a god that cannot save.

Isa 45:21 NKJV - Tell and bring forth your case; Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? Who has told it from that time? Have not I, the **LORD**? And there is no other God besides Me, A just God and a Savior; There is none besides Me.

Isa 45:22 NKJV - "Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.

Isa 45:23 NKJV - I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness, And shall not return, That to Me every knee shall bow, Every tongue shall take an oath.

Isa 45:24 NKJV - He shall say, 'Surely in the **LORD** I have righteousness and strength. To Him men shall come, And all shall be ashamed Who are incensed against Him.

Isa 45:25 NKJV - In the **LORD** all the descendants of Israel Shall be justified, and shall glory."

Let me note, that I have added the bold font to the words “”Lord” in Philippians and “LORD” in Isaiah. I have also added more text from Isaiah to make a point. When we quote from the Bible, it is very important to read the verses surrounding the point we are interested in. The verse we want to study from Isaiah and compare to Philippians is Isaiah 45:23. It must be clear that the person of interest in Isaiah 45:15-25 is the “LORD.”

Isaiah is “fore-telling” that “to Me (the LORD) every knee shall bow and every tongue shall take an oath.” Paul says, paraphrased, “that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend . . . and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.” Paul is “forth-telling” what Isaiah “fore-told.”

Here is what we are searching out. Does Paul’s “Lord” equal Isaiah’s “LORD?” What’s the difference? Does it matter?

Recall from the “Name of God,” that “LORD” is the name of God as revealed to Moses at the ‘burning bush’ of Exodus 3. Historically, the name is “Jehovah” but it would be “Yahweh or Yahveh,” if translated directly from Hebrew. If we understand Paul’s “Lord” to mean master or owner, we

have missed a very important point. Isaiah has also told us that there is no other God than “the LORD” who is just God and a Savior. Isaiah is saying there is no other God than Jehovah or Yahweh who is a Savior.

Paul is an apostle to the Gentiles and is telling them (Philippians) that Jesus is Jehovah or Yahweh of the “Old Testament.” Jesus isn’t just “Lord or master,” but Jehovah or Yahweh who became human to be a savior. Isaiah said there was no other savior. Yahweh or Jehovah is also master or owner. The “LORD” can be “Lord.” But, not to see the difference is a serious mistake, perhaps with eternal consequences. Jesus said in Matthew 7:21-22, paraphrased, that not every one called Him “Lord” would enter into the kingdom of heaven. It bears careful study.

The “gospel of Paul” to the Gentiles is that Jehovah or Yahweh, the God of the Hebrews became a human to save the Jew first and then the Gentile, that is, everyone else. The God of the “Old Testament” is the God of the “New Testament.” Jehovah or Yahweh of the “Old Testament” is the Son of God. The Son of God doesn’t show up in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John but has been present from Genesis. The entire Bible is about the Son. Jesus said in John 5, paraphrased, that no one had ever seen the Father or heard His voice. This means that Moses received the Ten Commandments from the Son of God, the LORD or Jehovah or Yahweh. This means the “small, still voice” that spoke to Elijah in his cave was the Son of God, Yahweh or Jehovah.

This is “the gospel” that Paul is taking to the Gentiles. Paul says that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord . . . LORD . . . Yahweh . . . Jehovah . . . unto the glory of the Father. It is important to our Father that we recognize the sacrifice of His son, Yahweh or Jehovah on the cross. This is the gospel that Jesus was asking the Jews to believe. It isn’t that He, Jesus was just Messiah but that He, Yahweh or Jehovah had become human as the Christ or Messiah. Emmanuel or “God with us” was actually the LORD, Yahweh or Jehovah with us. Isaiah 7:14 is “fore-telling” that Yahweh or Jehovah would be born of a young virgin. It is important to Jesus that Father be glorified. Father isn’t glorified when we think of Jesus as master or owner. Father is glorified when we know Jesus as Jehovah or Yahweh. There is an enormous difference.

Jesus Strong’s #G2424 means, “Jehovah or Yahweh is salvation.” It is directly linked to Strong’s #H3091, Joshua, which means “Jehovah or

Yahweh is salvation.” The key point is translate “Jesus” from Strong’s #G2424.

The name “Jesus” in Hebrew is also “Jeshua or Yeshua” from Strong’s #H3442. Strong links #H3442 back to #H3091. Jeshua or Yeshua is a contracted form of “Jehoshua or Yehoshua.” Compare this to Jonathan and John in the English language.

It can be confusing to start with “salvation” in Hebrew which is Strong’s #H3441, or “yeshuah.” While “yeshua” and “yeshuah” sound the same in English, it creates a problem. Again, the Septuagint or LXX provides the clues.

The name “Jesus” Strong’s #G2424 is translated into Greek as Ἰησοῦς ,, or, “iesous.” The name “Joshua” is Strong’s #H3091, יהושוע or יהושע If you read the LXX or Septuagint where the name “Joshua” appears in Deuteronomy or the Book of Joshua, you’ll see that it is translated “iesous.”

If you examine “salvation” in Hebrew, you find it often linked to the Greek word, “sozo,” Strong’s #G4982. The Hebrew counterpart is Strong’s #H3467, “yesha.” **The point is that the link with the name “iesous” is lost.**

While this may seem like a daunting task, the work has been done for us by www.blueletterbible.org.

Now, let’s go back to Philippians 2:9-11. Paul is saying that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord . . . that “Yahweh or Jehovah is salvation” is Lord. All I did was translate the name of Jesus, “Jehovah or Yahweh is salvation” and substitute it into the text.

Remember, that “LORD” is “Jehovah or Yahweh.” Paul is saying that Jesus Christ is “Jehovah or Yahweh.” Now, let’s put them together. Paul is saying that, “Jehovah or Yahweh is salvation” is “Jehovah or Yahweh.”

All I have done is use principles of logic or simple algebra.

Paul must tell the story of Jehovah or Yahweh to the Gentiles who do not have the Hebrew scriptures, who do not have, “. . . the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the service of God, and the promises, of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all . . . Romans 9:4-5. Now, this is a daunting task!

You shall be to Me (Jehovah or Yahweh) a kingdom of priests, paraphrased after Exodus 19:6. Priests served Yahweh or Jehovah and one of the ways was to teach the people. **Israel's destiny was to be a kingdom of Levites, with Moses as a model.** Israel was to be a kingdom of teachers from every one of the twelve tribes. **This is the destiny of the church that Jesus called into being in Matthew 16:18.** We must all be ready to teach. Peter said, “. . . always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you . . .” after 1 Peter 3:15.

Are you willing to pay the price that Simon Peter paid?