

Another important Objection to the use of the ‘Name’ of our Father.
This is a condensed version of a letter I wrote to a very special friend
answering his letter. By Bill Burton

You’ ll always have a special place in our hearts for bringing us the truth about the Set Apart Name of the Heavenly Father and His Son, and I know that you will always be seeking His Truth no matter what. I also believe that the meaning of their Names rather than simply the pronunciation of their Names is what does make them something special. However, I do not believe we as His creation have the right to rename the Creator, even if it seems to give us a name that we can identify with in our language that seems to more in line with the ‘translated meaning’ than the ‘Hebrew Name’ of our Father, or His Son. **In the first place, I do not believe that His Name is a ‘Hebrew’ Name, but rather a Heavenly Name that He gave to man, not vice versa.** It just so happens that He gave it to those who spoke Hebrew. Although, I don’t know for sure that Adam, Noah or those before the flood spoke Hebrew, but He also gave His Name to them, and His Name was most likely transferred right on down to Abraham, and the rest of the patriarchs on down to the Hebrew speaking Nation of Israel. **I don’t believe that *man* has any more right to change our Creator’s Name than to change the ‘Ten Commandments’ or any of His Torah or Teachings, which He gave to mankind.** To do so puts the created man above the Creator, and he then becomes ‘God’, which is the basis of Humanism or ‘Godless’ Communism, where man sets or makes the laws that governs man, so he can change them at his will.

I believe that R. Clover in his book, ¹ The Sacred Name Yahweh explains it a lot better than I could on pages 72-74 and 256. Starting on p 71, “One common response to these questions is the reasoning that, ‘we speak English (...or what ever tongue one might be speaking)’. Yahweh, they contend is a *Hebrew or Jewish* name of the almighty. Therefore, the rationale goes, *anyone not speaking Hebrew is exempt and is permitted to use whatever name their own national language group has devised. For example, in America most Christians believe that because we speak English that an English name should be utilized.* This kind of logic is precisely that to which the book of Proverbs refers when it twice states, ² ‘There is a road (seeming) upright to the face of man, but its ends are the roads of death.’

► The Sacred Name Yahweh, Vol. 1 A Scriptural Study by R. Clover, 2nd Edition 1995

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www.yahweh.org I believe all their books are on line They are all excellent well-documented studies.

► Prov. 14:12; 16:25

Support is entirely lacking from Scriptures for the vain argument that one is exempt from using the sacred name Yahweh simply because he is speaking a language other than Hebrew. This view is merely a contrived notion of men, not an allowed deviation from Yahweh's commandments. What difference does it make? Nowhere does Yahweh say that his personal name was 'your name for Me.' **Nowhere is it said that the sacred name is a Hebrew name.** Rather Yahweh states: "I am Yahweh, that is my name: and I will not give my glory to another, nor my praise to engraved images." (Isa 42:8)

Yahweh revealed his name to men not vice versa. It existed '*from olam, (everlasting)*' long before mankind even set foot on the earth. ³ Those speaking Hebrew were merely using the name that Yahweh had revealed to them. *It was not the invention of men. ... By what Scriptural authority do men receive the right to change their creator's name?*

The arrogance that comes with the attitude expounded by men, that they have the right of rename our Heavenly Father *with a name of their own or collective choosing*, is best expressed by the power that is appropriated to the person giving a name. ... **But never is it said in Scriptures that anyone had the right or even dared to give Yahweh a personal name. Parents name their children; children do not name their parents. It is the prerogative of the superior to name, not the inferior. Yet humans, who have but the potential of becoming the children of Yahweh, feel that they have the right of rename our heavenly father. The imprudent notion held by men, that they even think they have this power and right, is in itself preposterous. To hold this view is to make the vain claim that the almighty is their inferior and subject to their control!"**

Then on pp 255, 256 is a summation of these arguments.

"... For the Jews the sacred name 'Yahweh' is far too sacred for anyone to utter, except for those they deem to be the most pious. The Editorial "Board for the New American Standard Bible, sums up the Christian view for neither using nor publishing the sacred name (an opinion also shared by the Moslems). They conclude:

It is known that for many years YHWH has been transliterated as Yahweh. *No complete certainty attaches to this pronunciation.* However, it is felt by many who are in touch with the laity of our churches *that this name conveys no religious or spiritual*

► Isa 63:16

overtones. It is a strange, uncommon, and without sufficient religious and devotional background. No amount of scholarly debate can overcome this deficiency. Hence it was decided to avoid the use of this name in the translation proper. (NASB. P. IX)

As the preceding investigation has revealed, these arguments are **false, confused, and unscriptural**. *Simply because the laity of modern churches feels that the sacred name is strange and uncommon, does not give them authority to relegate it to insignificance. **Truth comes from Yahweh and his Scriptures**, never from the clergy, and certainly not from the laity! **Neither can centuries of failure by these respective churches to teach, use, and give proper devotion to the sacred name dismiss the value granted this name in Scriptures....***

In Scriptures a personal name represents the very character and essence of the individual holding it. **The name Yahweh, which our heavenly father has magnified above all things, proves to be the greatest name of all. It is the only name considered sacred in all of Scriptures** and is treasured by the men of Yahweh as extremely valuable. Yahweh is a name that is to be held in high esteem, loved, praised, and for which we must give thanks. **Above all it is meant to be use in the worship of Yahweh.** At no time is it to be defamed or treated as worthless. *The sacred name stands as a memorial to all generations of mankind, a reminder that Yahweh will keep his word. It was by this name that Yahweh swore his oaths; and it is for his name's sake that he will accomplish those oaths.*

The Evidence proves that the sacred name is not a Hebrew or Jewish invention. It is an *eternal name*, a name that existed before any human walked upon the face of the earth –a name that shall continue for eternity. **It was revealed to mankind by Yahweh himself** as early as the days of Adam and Eve.... *The sacred name is meant to be used by everyone, regardless from whatever national background they may stem.*

....

Because Yahweh is honor bound to fulfill his word, for the sake of His good name, the sacred name demands that forgiveness must be granted for those who repent so that the inheritance can be given by grace. Only in this way can Yahweh fulfill his oath to mankind, since the nature of mankind is mastered by sin and unable to meet the qualifications required to obtain the inheritance on personal merit. **When the people of Yahweh do receive their inheritance they will also receive the sacred name Yahweh as their own personal family name, further binding them into eternal unity with the father Yahweh.**

We find salvation in only one name: the sacred name Yahweh! It is not found by uttering the name 'Jesus Christ or even its original Hebrew form 'Yahushua ha-messiah.' ... The evidence also shows that when the NT texts speak of accomplishing things in the name of Yahushua ... it was done in *metonymic* style ***and refers directly to the name Yahweh. Yahushua did great works in his father's name, not his own earthly name.*** Therefore, when Yahushua said to do things and request things 'in my name,' **he meant in his heavenly name, the name he came in, the name he inherited and now shares with our heavenly father.**

Yet the evidence presented so far clearly demonstrates that there has been an immense failure on the part of present day religious leaders and their institutions, regardless of their claim to scriptural authority, **to adequately address the important doctrine of the sacred name. This failure has resulted in their committing the same error charged against the ancient religious leaders of the Israelites: they have concealed the 'key of knowledge' that can open the door to salvation. With this valuable key restored a great void in man's understanding of the Scriptures can once again be filled."**

On p 188, "As already demonstrated, the knowledge and use of the sacred name is a major part of basic scriptural teaching. Therefore, it is something that should have been taken into consideration by established religions in their quest to find salvation. ... **The sacred name actually forms an integral part of the mechanics that brings salvation about.** Knowing this process opens up the door to the vital knowledge and understanding about salvation which has been locked away in the Scriptures. ... **Once the key to knowledge is searched for and found, the door to salvation is opened and the path one must follow to 'enter' into eternal life is revealed.**

We do know that the sacred name was the 'Key of Knowledge' for gaining salvation. Yahushua chastised the so-called religious experts of his day stating in Luke 11:52, 'Woe to you, the experts in the Torah, for you took away the key of knowledge; yourselves did not enter, and those who were entering you hindered.'

There was only one controversy between Yahushua and the Jewish religious leaders that fits this description: the prohibition against any common person using the sacred name. In Yahushua's day this Key was stolen away by these leaders. Today it continues to be hidden away by the numerous religious sects and offshoots, which compose the Judaeo-Christian and Moslem faiths. By removing this Key and concealing it from the rest of mankind the 'Clergy' has not only prevented

themselves from entering Yahweh's kingdom or government, and thereby from gaining eternal life, but they are also hindering others who desire to come in. There is *not one scripture*, which makes the claim that someone can be saved *without the knowledge and use of the sacred name*. Quite the contrary, what we are told is summed in the passage from the book of Joel, in Joel 2:32, 'For it will be (that) all who will call on the Name of Yahweh shall be saved....'

The prophets recognized that the sacred name was the precious and valuable '*Key of Knowledge*' that unlocked the door to eternal life. For this reason those being saved bless, glorify, and praise the sacred name: they are eternally thankful for what the name is doing for them and that the almighty has provided it. ...

Conclusion

The sacred name Yahweh is the '*Key of Knowledge*' that must be used to open the door of salvation. Those who find salvation will use the sacred name, calling out to Yahweh to rescue them from their distress. They will love the sacred name and give thanks for it. *The wicked, on the other hand do not use the sacred name. They only scorn and defame it. ... All those who call upon the Name of Yahweh, 'our Key to Salvation,' shall be saved!*"

Going back a few pages before his conclusion, on p 195 he makes a statement that I believe is really important to bring out. He states, "**But how can one call 'on the name Yahweh' if he does not know his name? Therefore, one must have knowledge of the sacred name as well as a desire to use it.** These are prerequisites that must be in place before one can even ask to be saved. ..."

.....
I'm not passing judgment on your selecting an 'English name' which represents the translated meaning of His Name & I respect your conclusions, **but I do respectfully come to a different position.** The Jewish religious leaders sought to protect the Heavenly Father's Name from being blasphemed or used as a curse word, so they came up with alternative words, albeit they were names of the pagan deities that were around them, but they did so for a good reason. They also came up with 'Ha Shem' to be used instead of His Name, again to prevent others from using His Name in a disrespectful way. However, they caused His True Name *to become forgotten, to not to be known* at all by the majority of those who came to worship Him throughout the world. This breaks His Commandments and Torah about His Name, and at the same time substituting names of pagan

deities or names that man gave to Him, not using the Name that He gave to man to worship Him by.

I understand your feeling that ‘it’s the *translated meaning* more than the transliterated sound that is important, and that it is the *meaning*, rather than the sound, that makes these Names so special, and that an *equivalent name with the same meaning shows equal reverence*’. Later, you go on and say the name that *I’ve chosen* to use for our Father, is simply ‘*Eternal*’ – without the definite article, giving it a more ‘proper noun’ characteristic, that is, the name of a particular person.

Do you not see a disconnect in this. You are *choosing* a name for our Heavenly Father, when He Named Himself, and gave it to man to be the Name they are to call Him, as a Memorial Forever.⁴ Do we have the right to *rename* our father, even our earthly father, much less our Heavenly Father who is also our Creator? *Just because He gave His Name to people who spoke Hebrew doesn’t make it a ‘Hebrew Name’*. The question is, is His Name a *Hebrew* Name, or is it His Name from before He even made the heavens and the earth. If it is a ‘Hebrew’ name that Moses and the patriarch’s gave to the Creator, then maybe it is ‘OK’ to rename Him with an English name that *fully explains* the ‘Hebrew’ name. However, it is my understanding from the Scriptures **that it was our Heavenly Father who gave His Name to man, *not the vice versa*.**

If it is ‘OK’ to translate His Name to an equivalent ‘English’ name that gives a more clarified meaning or translation to the meaning of His Name to our English speaking peoples, than the argument that names are *transliterated*, is wrong, *not* valid, and yet that is exactly what we do with all the other names in the Scriptures, except the Heavenly Father and His Son, and what we do with all the foreign dignitaries that come over to the U.S. Should we give these foreign people English names that give the translated meanings to their ‘foreign’ names, or respect their name that was given to them by their fathers? If we feel that their names warrant translating the meanings to their names, educate our people that their name means such and such, rather than trying to change their name. **Shouldn’t that be our responsibility, duty or mission to restore the Key to Salvation, the Name of our Creator, and to educate those who are truly seeking His Truth, to the *knowledge* what His Great Name does stand for, and just what His Name does mean?**

That last quote from R. Clover’s book on p 195, referred back to p 182, where he quoted Rom 10:14,15. He then goes on to say, “ **In short, one**

⁴ Ex 3:15

cannot trust in an eloah if he has never heard about him, and how can anyone hear of him unless someone is sent to proclaim who he is? And to know him is to know his name! And this is exactly what Yahushua did, as he stated when he reported back to his father, 'I manifested your name to the men whom you have given me out of the world.' And 'I made known to them your name, ⁵ or again, when he told the Jews that opposed him, 'I have come in the name of my father, *and you receive me not.* ⁶'"

We have to remember that His Name has been ignored, spurned, neglected and replaced for over 2000 + years, so this is a 'new' truth to most people seeking His Truth, and because we have been so conditioned to use other names for The Almighty and His Son that it is a hard one to accept. This is especially so, since almost all of Christendom, the Jews, the Moslems, and almost the whole world has accepted the names of L-rd', God, and Jesus Christ for the 'Christian Savior'.

There are just too many benefits to ignore the truth about His Sacred Name, and all the evidence is in His book, 'The Sacred Scriptures', or known to most, as 'The Holy Bible', although in most 'Holy Bibles', His Name has been replaced with 'Lord', 'God', and His Son by 'Jesus Christ'. *Many will continue to accept these substituted names instead of having an 'open mind' and accepting the 'new' truth because it is still promoted by most if not all of Christendom. Someone has to proclaim and make His Name known again to those who are truly seeking His Truth.* I feel that it is better to do this, rather than to give Him an 'English' name that explains the 'True Meaning' of His Name. **However, we at the same time *must explain the True Meaning of His Name and all the benefits that accompany worshiping the Almighty utilizing His Name that He gave to man to worship Him.***

Shalom,
Bill

► John 17:6,26►

► John 5:43