

The Name Above Every Name: Philippians 2:9–11

I hope that this year's Bible Month has encouraged all of us to learn more about Christ through our journey in Philippians. One phrase that particularly caught my attention was Paul's description of Jesus as having "the name above every name." During Bible Month, I found myself reflecting on why Paul chose these words. It led me to explore the many names and titles given to Jesus throughout the Bible.

We all have names. Most of us were given our names by our parents, perhaps because they liked the name or because it belonged to a family member. My own name, Asif, is often associated with wisdom, good judgement, faithful service, and wise counsel. It is a name with a positive meaning, and I am grateful for it. Yet, however meaningful our names may be, none can compare with the name of Jesus. The Bible gives Jesus many names and titles. Every name and title given to Jesus reveals something of His character, mission, and relationship with God's people.

A

- Alpha and Omega (Revelation 22:13)
- Amen (Revelation 3:14)
- Advocate (1 John 2:1)
- Author and Perfecter of Faith (Hebrews 12:2)

B

- Bread of Life (John 6:35)
- Beloved Son (Matthew 3:17)
- Bright Morning Star (Revelation 22:16)
- Branch (Zechariah 6:12)

C

- Christ (Matthew 16:16)
- Chief Cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20)
- Chief Shepherd (1 Peter 5:4)
- Counsellor, Wonderful Counsellor (Isaiah 9:6)

D

- Dayspring (Luke 1:78)
- Deliverer (Romans 11:26)
- Door (John 10:9)
- Desire of All Nations (Haggai 2:7)

E

- Emmanuel, "God with Us" (Matthew 1:23)
- Elect One (Isaiah 42:1; Luke 23:35)
- Everlasting Father (Isaiah 9:6)

F

- Faithful Witness (Revelation 1:5)
- Firstborn from the Dead (Colossians 1:18)
- Friend of Sinners (Matthew 11:19)
- Forerunner (Hebrews 6:20)

G

- Good Shepherd (John 10:11)
- Great High Priest (Hebrews 4:14)
- Gift of God (John 4:10)

- Glory of Israel (Luke 2:32)

H

- Holy One of God (Mark 1:24)
- Head of the Church (Colossians 1:18)
- Heir of All Things (Hebrews 1:2)
- Hope of Glory (Colossians 1:27)

I

- I AM (John 8:58)
- Image of the Invisible God (Colossians 1:15)
- Immanuel (Matthew 1:23)

J

- Jesus (Matthew 1:21)
- Judge of the Living and the Dead (Acts 10:42)
- Just One (Acts 3:14)

K

- King of Kings (Revelation 19:16)
- King of Glory (Psalm 24:7–10)
- King of Israel (John 1:49)

L

- Lamb of God (John 1:29)
- Light of the World (John 8:12)
- Lord of Lords (Revelation 19:16)
- Lion of the Tribe of Judah (Revelation 5:5)
- Life (John 14:6)

M

- Messiah (John 4:25–26)
- Mediator (1 Timothy 2:5)
- Master (Luke 5:5)
- Mighty God (Isaiah 9:6)

N

- Nazarene (Matthew 2:23)

O

- Omega (Revelation 22:13)
- Only Begotten Son (John 3:16)
- Offspring of David (Revelation 22:16)

P

- Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6)
- Passover Lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7)
- Prophet (Acts 3:22)
- Physician (Mark 2:17)

Q

- There is no commonly recognised biblical title of Jesus beginning with Q, though He answers every question of the human heart.

R

- Rabbi (John 1:38)
- Redeemer (Job 19:25)
- Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)
- Rock (1 Corinthians 10:4)
- Righteous One (Acts 3:14)

S

- Saviour (Luke 2:11)
- Son of God (Matthew 16:16)
- Son of Man (Mark 10:45)
- Shepherd and Overseer of Souls (1 Peter 2:25)
- Servant (Isaiah 42:1)

T

- Teacher (John 13:13)
- Truth (John 14:6)
- True Vine (John 15:1)
- Testator of the New Covenant (Hebrews 9:15–17)

U

- Upholder of All Things (Hebrews 1:3)

V

- Vine (John 15:5)
- Victorious One (Revelation 17:14)

W

- Way (John 14:6)
- Word (John 1:1)
- Wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:24)
- Wonderful (Isaiah 9:6)

X

- Christ is often represented by the Greek letter Chi (X), the first letter of Christos, from which the symbol "XP" (Chi-Rho) originates. The ancient Christian symbol "XP" (Chi-Rho) combines the first two Greek letters of the word *Christos* (Christ) ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ (Christos). For nearly two thousand years Christians have used this symbol to proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Y

- Yesterday, Today and Forever the Same (Hebrews 13:8)

Z

- Zeal of the Lord's Salvation (Isaiah 9:7)

- Though no direct title begins with Z, Jesus fulfils every promise accomplished through the zeal of the Lord.

Among all these beautiful names and titles, one name stands above them all: **Jesus**.

The angel told Joseph, "You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). The name Jesus means "The Lord saves." It reveals God's heart, God's mission, and God's love for the world.

That is why Paul declares: "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name" (Philippians 2:9).

Every title tells us something about Jesus. His name tells us why He came.

Each title reveals something of who He is and what He has done for us. But among all these titles, the name Jesus stands above every other name. Why is this name so special?

First, it is a name picked up not by Mary or Joseph but by God. Before Jesus was born, the angel told Joseph, "You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). This was not a random choice. It was God's choice.

Second, it is a name that points us to God's heart. The name Jesus means "The Lord saves." It reminds us that God has not forgotten humanity. He loves us and reaches out to us through His Son. When we look at Jesus, we see the love, compassion, mercy, and grace of God made visible.

Third, it is a name that paints God's mission. Jesus came "to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). God's desire is not to condemn people but to bring them into a relationship with Him. Through Jesus, God has opened the way of salvation for all.

As we conclude Bible Month, perhaps the most important question is this: Have we experienced the power, comfort, and hope found in the name of Jesus? His name still brings peace to troubled hearts, strength to the weary, hope to the discouraged, forgiveness to sinners, and joy to those who trust in Him. The prophet Isaiah invites us: "Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near" (Isaiah 55:6). In a world full of distractions, screens, uncertainty, and constant demands on our attention, these words remain as relevant as ever. God invites us not to delay but to draw near to Him today. Let us therefore continue to seek Christ, follow Christ, and trust Christ, whose name is above every name.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, thank you for the gift of your saving name. Help us to seek you while you may be found and to call upon you while you are near. Fill our hearts with your peace, hope, and grace. Turn our lives towards you each day, and help us to share your love with others. We ask this in the precious name of Jesus, the name above every name. Amen.