

THOU SHALT CALL HIS NAME JESUS

And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Matt. 1:21.

The name Jesus means "Jehovah saves." It indicates the purpose of the incarnation of the son of God. As this verse tells us, the name was divinely ordered for a definite reason: "for He shall save His people from their sins."

Some Christians always speak of our Lord by the title of Christ, instead of by the proper name of Jesus. It is even sometimes said that Jesus is His human name and that Christ is His divine name.

There is no warrant in Scripture for such an attitude. "Christ" is a title, declaring the wonderful truth that He is the Messiah of the Jews, who was predicted in the Old Testament. "Jesus" is the personal name which was given Him by God's direct command. It is the name which is used most in the gospel of John, a gospel which has His deity as its central theme.

Let us realize more in our lives the meaning of the name Jesus. It reminds us of the salvation He so freely offers through His shed blood. Let each of us ask himself this question: "Am I sure that I have personally accepted Him as Saviour? Have I been freed from my sins through the blood that He has shed? What can be more precious to us than this wonderful name?"

At the name of Jesus  
Every knee shall bow  
Every tongue confess Him  
Lord and Saviour now.

--Pfof. A. A. MacRae, Hatfield, Pa.